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MAD

The 50 WORST THINGS About AMERICA

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surgery

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MAD

Departments

"Don't ask, don't tell" was a terrible policy for the military, but a great one for Internet search histories!



NUMBER 515
JUNE 2012

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...Various Places Around the Magazine

COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

Letters and Tomatoes



SPY VS. SPIDER

I'm 13 years old and I love your magazine. One day, as I was perusing the magazine rack at Kroger, I found the newest issue of MAD buried under a bunch of *Reader's Digests*. When I opened the magazine, a spider fell out and hit my shoe. Maybe you should start offering subscriptions to spiders — they seem to have taken an interest.

James Chung • Milan, MI

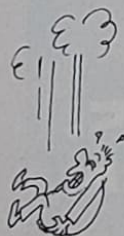
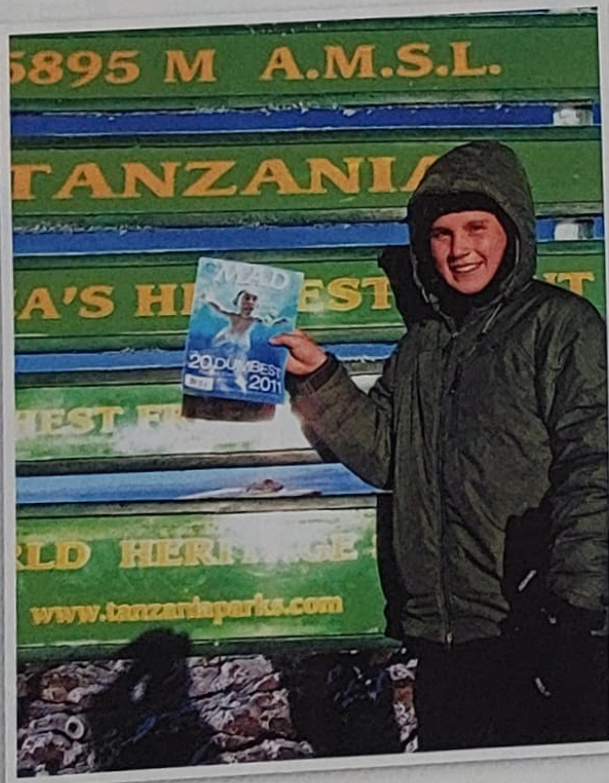
Chunga Din — You found a spider in your issue of MAD?!? That means you won MAD's "Find a Spider" Sweepstakes!!! It's like Willy Wonka's Golden Ticket — but instead of getting a tour of his fabulous chocolate factory, you get a spider on your shoe (while supplies last)! Congratulations! Now that the contest is over, please send the spider back. His name is Reggie and he is missed. —Ed.

NO CLIMB OR REASON

This December I climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, and of course I brought my MAD magazine! The peak is at 19,341 feet, so at that altitude your thinking begins to get a little fuzzy (like after you read MAD), but luckily I remembered to pull out my MAD magazine and snap a quick picture before we headed back down. As a loyal subscriber for three years and running, I hope you can publish this in an upcoming issue.

Oscar Leinbach • Minneapolis, MN

Outside Leinbacher — That sounds like a grueling journey — but at least you were prepared! Every mountaineering manual we've ever read (and we've read them ALL) says that you shouldn't scale one of the world's highest peaks without packing the latest issue of MAD! We hope you didn't need any of the oxygen, first aid supplies or food that you took out to make room for the issue — but, on the other hand, that Spy vs. Spy article was pretty great, huh? —Ed.



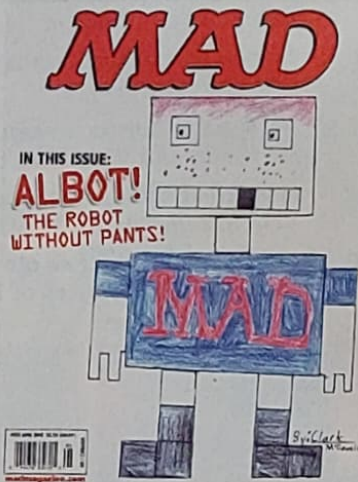
THE MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION™

I love your MAD magazine, so please enjoy my robot Alfred E. Neuman (Albot). I would like to propose this would make a fantastic cover or at least appear in the magazine. Thank you for your consideration.

Clark McDowell • Augusta, GA

Transformers: Clark of the Moon — At the Make a Dumb Wish Foundation™, we strive to make our readers' dumbest wishes come true. And with that in mind, we're granting BOTH of your requests — we're putting Albot ON a cover IN the magazine! Isn't that great?!? Who knows what's next — Albot t-shirts and toys? Albot movies and cartoons? An Albot theme park?!? The sky's the limit!

(Incidentally, Albot is now a registered trademark of DC Entertainment — Albot and all Albot-related characters, likenesses and related indicia are trademarked in perpetuity. Thanks for the great idea! And if you ever decide to visit the new Albot-land in Columbus, OH, we can promise you a coupon for one free small soft drink...with purchase of a larger soft drink.) —Ed.



THE MISSING INK

I'm 13 years old and I love MAD! But you guys always seem to not give me my money's worth! In MAD #514, you conveniently left off the article "What if Herman Cain Became a Chiropractor?" In MAD #513, you left off "What If Universities Had a Jell-O Wrestling Major?" You did the same thing in MAD #512, 511, 510 and 509! Do you guys enjoy making me suffer? Or do you guys need to hire a new editor?

Jack Neary • Richmond, VA

Near-Beer — The answer to both of your questions is "Yes." However, your letter was a real wake-up call! And as a result, we've redoubled our editorial efforts and we're confident that MAD #514 is the last time you'll find an article "conveniently" left out! Just out of curiosity, though — do you enjoy making US suffer?!? Would it kill you to focus on all the articles we remembered to leave IN? Maybe try seeing the glass as half-full for a change! —Ed.



READER ALERT

Andrew Farago over at the Cartoon Art Museum in San Francisco, CA gave us the hot tip that on April 21, the museum will be hosting an exhibit dedicated to the art of MAD — featuring art from the 1950s all the way up to present day! The exhibit is running into September, so if you're going to be in the San Francisco area, definitely check it out. And if you're NOT going to be in the area, start making plans to change that, you roustabout! You can find more info at cartoonart.org

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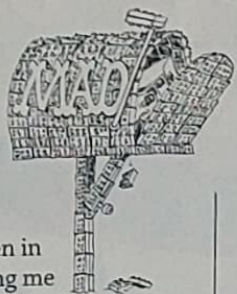
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Letters and Tomatoes



ALFRED LOOK-A-LIKE

Ever since my husband and nephew's pictures have been in *Dirt Wheels* magazine, my son Jonathan has been asking me to get his picture in a magazine. (He thinks it will make him famous.) I always thought he resembled Alfred, but something was missing. He needed a tooth missing, so me and my husband and my nephew held him down and ripped out one of his teeth. The only problem is, it's the wrong one! Whoops!

Melissa Streib •
High Ridge, MO

Mel Hath No Fury — What a horrifying and disturbing story! If we had a nickel for every time a family was torn apart by *Dirt Wheels* magazine, we'd be very rich indeed! On the other hand, your backwoods dentistry DID make Jonathan look a lot like Alfred...so, we guess it all evens out! —Ed.



THE QUOTABLE MAD

Sometimes — and it's a rarity, we know — people actually say nice things about us! Sure, they'd never have the cojones to say it to our faces, but they did post it on Twitter, which is good enough for us!



"A must-get issue. Amazing art—the attention to detail illustrating our sociological derailing of our beloved country"
The Vampire Diaries' Ian Somerhalder about MAD #513

"2 year subscription to MAD MAGAZINE!
take that parents...& every girl that just said 'ew'"
Former WWE World Heavyweight Champion Dolph Ziggler



MISTAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

It shouldn't surprise anyone that we sometimes make mistakes. Let's be honest — we work for MAD — which means we've made a LOT of mistakes in our lives just to end up here. In this case, in our "Banana Republican" article from last issue we forgot to include photo credits for the images that Scott Bricher Photoshopped. We know...we goofed. You're angry at us...we're angry at ourselves (and, frankly, a little angry at you for being so angry at us!). But we just want to move past our frothing disappointment and try to rebuild, ok? Anyway, here goes:

Michele Bachmann backdrop: Knostpix | Dreamstime.com

Rick Perry Body: Iryna Rasko | Dreamstime.com

Ron Paul body & backdrop: Keith Brofsky | Dreamstime.com

Sarah Palin & John Boehner bodies: Sergey Pristiyazhnyuk | Dreamstime.com



THE BRICK AND THE DEAD

I just thought I should let you know, I am a huge fan of your magazine. I also happen to be a LEGO addict. One day I was just sitting around, doing nothing much, when my ingenious 12-year-old lump of grey matter put together an amazing plan: LEGO MAD! I decided on a vignette starring a Spy vs. Spy scene. I first built an 8 stud by 8 stud square with a red wall and a small table, and a simple but awesome floor inlay. The minifigs starring in my vignette sacrificed themselves to my Sharpie and Wite-Out, but there was a problem: how to do the pointy noses. My previously-mentioned lump of grey matter then had the idea to use small amounts of clay. I set up the minifigs and added some accessories to complete my masterpiece. If you can't tell, the White Spy has just opened a briefcase expecting top secret documents and found lit dynamite instead. Ouch! And of course you can't forget the Black Spy laughing from above. Hope you guys like it.

Oliver Ward • Peterborough, NH

Ward is Bond — Great job! You know, we also have a 12-year-old lump of grey matter. We found it in the back of our fridge. We think it used to be potato salad. But whatever it is, it's not dreaming up any Lego Spy adventures, that's for darn sure! —Ed.



EC DOES IT

I have a question to ask. When MAD was an EC comic, there was a comic like MAD called *Panic*. So why didn't *Panic* become a magazine, too?

Jacob (last name withheld) • Round Hill, VA

Jake the Money and Run — It did. You know it as *Dirt Wheels*! —Ed.



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MAD

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From "The Soul of MAD" Collection

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KEYCODE: AWKMDCC

Letters and Tomatoes



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

I've been a reader of your so-called magazine since I was about 8, but I've never written. I decided to draw you an envelope — I drew the envelope and did the black outline and my 10-year-old son, Allen III did the color, it's colorful to say the least!

Allen Vermillion • Duncan, OK



WE DON'T BELIEVE OUR YEARS

In a 1994 issue of MAD (#326), my first letter was printed; "Earl's Initial Inquiry." Now, over 17 years and 50 years of reading MAD later, my second letter appeared in 2011, in MAD #510; "Nobel Intentions." I believe your Archive Dept. will confirm this to be the record for most years between letters printed and warrants special recognition. Also, just so you will be looking for it, I plan on breaking the record by sending another letter in 18 years; probably posthumously.

Earl Holden • Zillah, WA

Gotta Know When to Holden — We're not sure about holding the record for "most years between letters" — after all, there are people who wrote letters to us in the '50s, and they could write again ANY MINUTE NOW and shatter your precious little streak! However, our crack "Archive Dept." did find a bunch of other records that you were successful in breaking — including "Most Pointless Letter by Someone Named Earl," "Most Awkward Request for Recognition," "Most Pitiful Solicitation for Acknowledgement" and "Least Exciting Use of Commas." So congrats! And thanks for the warning about another letter coming in another 18 years — we'll brace ourselves accordingly. If you're not dead by then, we'll certainly try to be! —Ed. P.S. Thanks for writing!



READER ALERT

If your letter was printed in this issue, we know what you're thinking: "There's no way my life could get better than this!" Well, you'd be wrong! Because not only do you get the sense of pride and accomplishment of having your letter printed, you also get a whole bunch of awesome free gifts! You'll be receiving *Regular Show: Slack Pack* on DVD AND one of the two iPod Touch cases shown here, courtesy of our pals at Cartoon Network (available at cartoonnetworkshop.com); you'll also be getting *Walt Disney's Donald Duck: Lost in the Andes*, from our good chums at Fantagraphics Books; *Maximum Rad: The Iconic Covers of Thrasher Magazine* from our pals at Universe Publishing; and last, but certainly not least, *MAD Season 1, Part 2*, from our amigos at Warner Home Video. Oh, what a world! What are you waiting for? Send us a letter and watch the riches roll in!



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John Ficarra Editor

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Dave Croatto, Jacob Lambert Associate Editors

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The Usual Gang of Idiots

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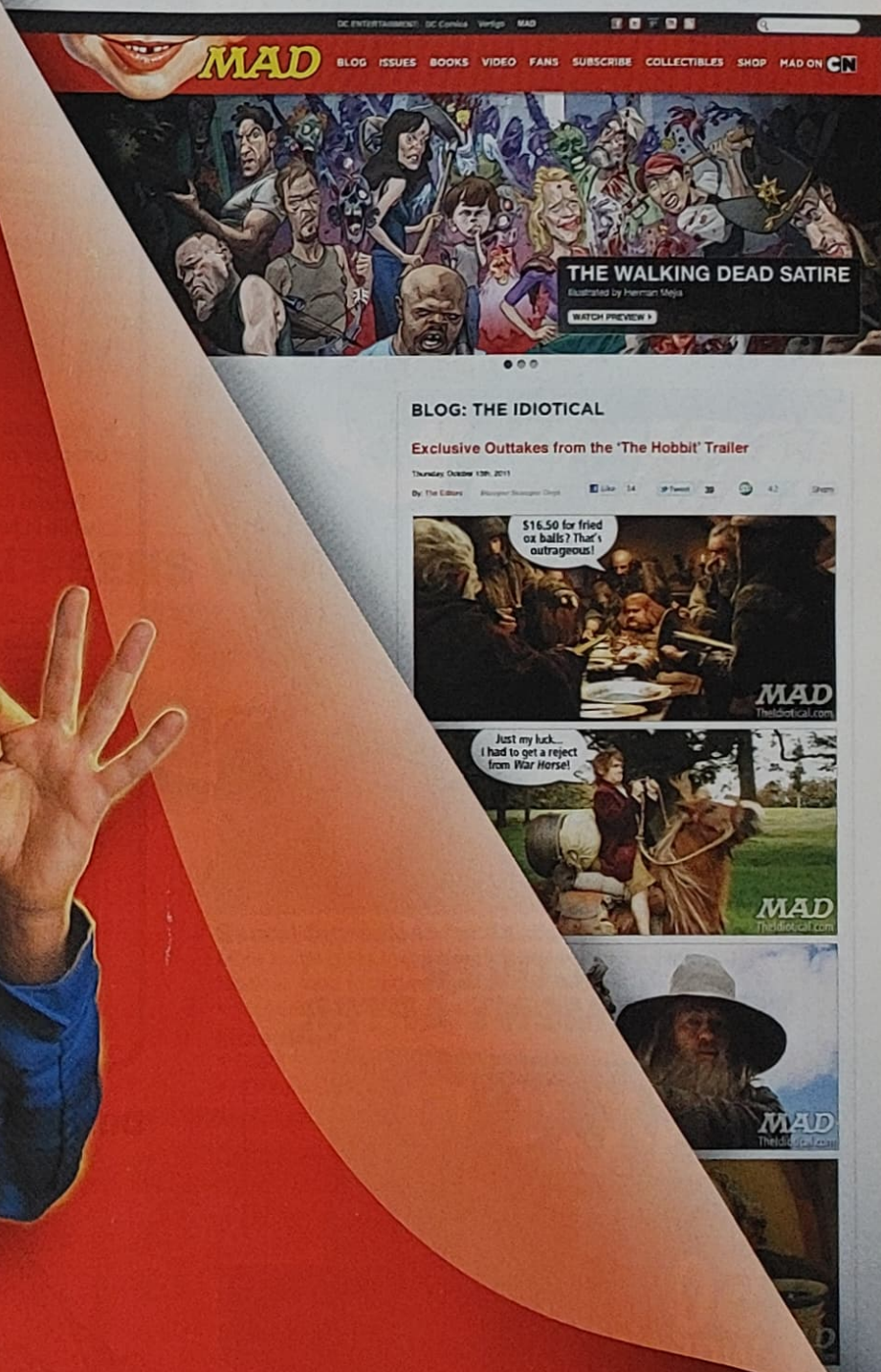
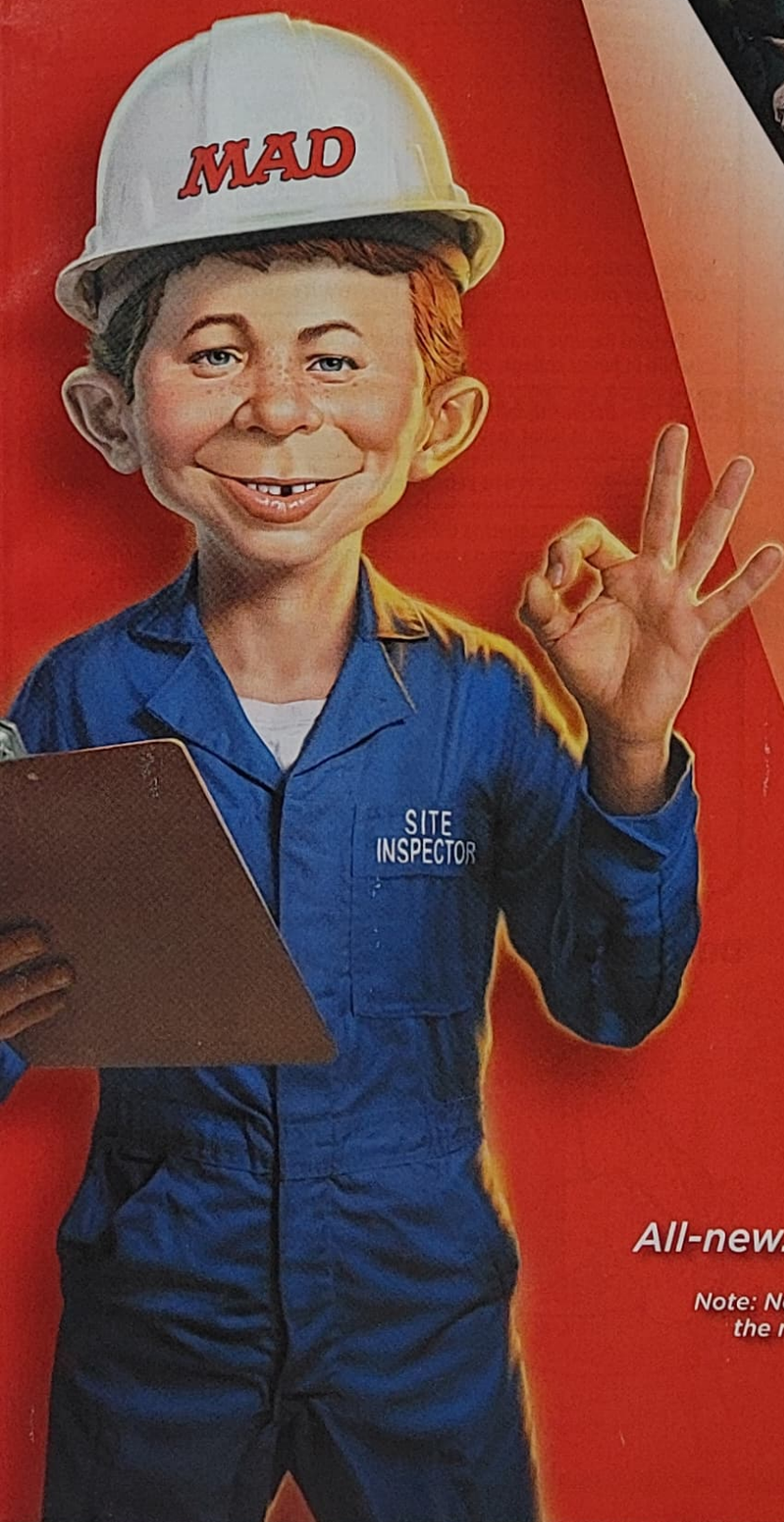
MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

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*Note: No monkeys were harmed in
the making of this web site.*

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THE FUNDALINI

Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds **GEORGE CLOONEY**

- Beaten to death by former E.R. costar Noah Wyle after ignoring Wyle's panhandling.....1:1
- Flare-up of old *Batman & Robin* codpiece injury.....3:1
- Pummeled to death by Sean Penn and Bono in leftist self-righteous activist smack-down.....4:1
- Dies of a broken heart after being rejected by Mayim Bialik.....500:1
- Stabbed by confused celebrity stalker who mistook him for Kevin James1,000,000:1



Artist:
Rick Tulka

THE COVER: THE MOMENT AFTER



SOBERING FACTS ABOUT THE AMERICAN ECONOMY



In this country, a home gets foreclosed on every 43 seconds. And, due to faulty computer programs in the banking industry, it's often the exact same home

Federal Reserve head Ben Bernanke actually majored in oceanography while in junior college, and has no background in economics whatsoever

Under-the-table payments to NCAA athletes are barely half of what they were at their peak in the early Nineties

The richest 400 people think nothing of mocking #401

Despite their staggering difference in yearly salary, Warren Buffett's secretary spends more on hair care products than Buffett himself does

The American Economy, a garage band from Eugene, Oregon, is still unsigned, and their prospects are getting bleaker by the day

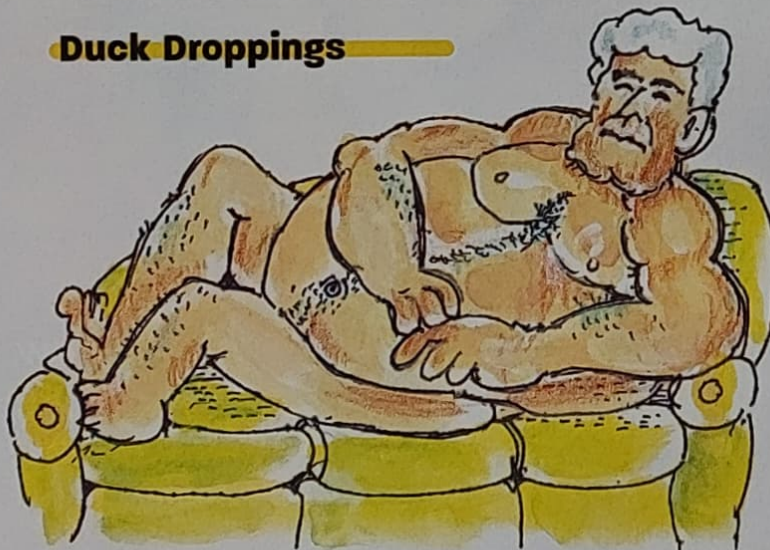
Americans owe more than \$900 billion in student loans, 60% of which was spent on snacks and overpriced textbooks at campus bookstores

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's name can be anagrammed to spell "Mighty Iron Teeth"

Our debt to China is so massively high, leading economists predict we'll eventually just go to war with them and hope for the best

Writer: Jeff Kruse Artist: Marc Hempel

Duck Droppings



Nude Gingrich

Writer and Artist: Duck Edwing

PAGES

Excerpts From the Jeremy Lin Dictionary

linept [lin-ep] adj.
lacking the necessary skill to recognize all-star-level basketball talent: The 148 talent scouts who wrote off Jeremy Lin as an Ivy League hack are professionally **linept**.

linflation [lin-fley-shuhn] noun
a sudden and precipitous rise in the price of NBA tickets: The fact that a pair of tickets for a New York Knicks home game now costs as much as a new BMW is a direct result of **linflation**.

linappropriate [lin-uh-proh-ree-it] adj.
a statement or headline about Jeremy Lin which references his ethnicity in a patently offensive manner: Fox Sports columnist Jason Whitlock's tweet suggesting that Jeremy Lin has a small dong was completely **linappropriate**.

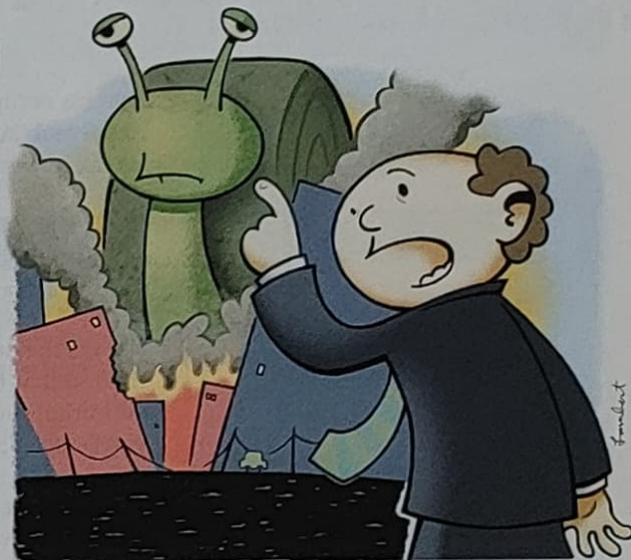
linconsolable [lin-kuhn-soh-luh-buhl] adj.
an inability to comfort a basketball executive who made a monumental blunder: Since cutting the player he thought was a worthless scrub who turned out to be a goldmine, the general manager of the Houston Rockets has been **linconsolable**.

lingenious [lin-jeen-yuhs] adj.
the uncanny ability to capitalize almost immediately on a new celebrity athlete's stardom: The guy outside Madison Square Garden hawking bootleg jerseys with Lin's name on them after his first 20-point game was quite **lingenious**.

Writer: Andrew Schwartzberg



Leg of Lambert Part 1



"WALK! WALK FOR YOUR LIVES!"

Writer and Artist: Jacob Lambert

AOL START-UP SCREENS WE'D LIKE TO SEE

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http://www.aol.com

Unheroic Dog to the Non-Rescue
Selfish canine bastard saves own ass in fire, leaves owners inside to fend for themselves

- 9 other pets not worth a damn

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Secret Ingredient for Tastier Brownies
More sugar does the trick every time, according to the faceless food expert we go to on slow days

- 10 other super-easy dessert fixes

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- 10-Year-Old Gets Publicity for Dangerous, Useless Stunt

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Strip Club Ruling Angers Many
Ferret owners, beet farmers and urologists all angry at ruling they say unfairly targets them

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Recognize this Heartthrob as an Embryo?
He would go on to capture the hearts of naïve young women on incredibly shallow sitcom

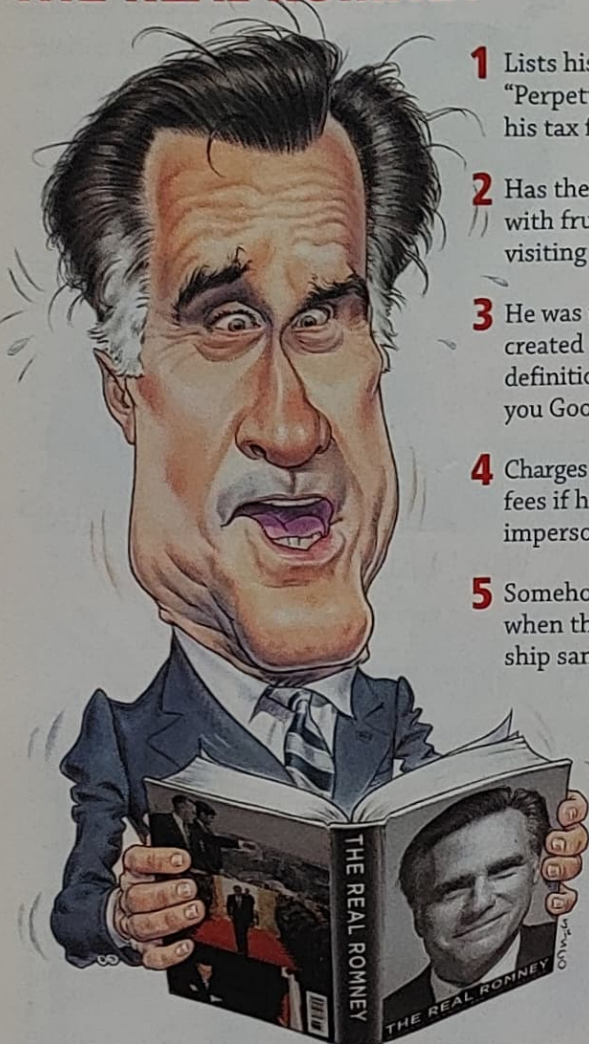
- Eyes are the key

More News

- Burger King Stops Caring, Hopes You Do Too
- Circus Bear Unicycle Injuries Up — GOP Blames Obama

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

THE FAST FIVE STUNNING REVELATIONS IN THE REAL ROMNEY



- 1** Lists his occupation as "Perpetual Candidate" on his tax forms
- 2** Has the nerve to haggle with fruit vendors when visiting Tijuana
- 3** He was the one who created that fake definition you get when you Google "Santorum"
- 4** Charges extra for speaking fees if he does celebrity impersonations
- 5** Somehow gained millions when that Italian cruise ship sank

Writer: Jeff Kruse
Artist: Sam Sisco

Leg of Lambert Part 2



Writer and Artist: Jacob Lambert

"Ants — ALWAYS RUINING A PICNIC."

Rejected Reality Shows on The Weather Channel

DRIZZLE ATTACK!

**THE CELSIUS
APPRENTICE**

**the Real
Brushfires**
OF BEVERLY HILLS

SO YOU THINK IT'S
**SLIGHTLY
HUMID**

**THE
FOG
WHISPERER**

Writer: Jeff Kruse

THE FAST FIVE PART DEUX WAYS THE POST OFFICE CAN RAISE & SAVE MONEY

- 1** Cut back on costly deliveries by simply rewriting the postal motto: "Rain, sleet and gloom of night will all stop our couriers from swift completion of their appointed rounds."
- 2** Establish a \$5 "jump to the head of the line" service fee at post offices. (Higher fees during the holiday shipping rush.)
- 3** Institute a "sloppy handwriting surcharge." If the automated mail system can't decipher someone's chicken scrawl, it gets returned to sender for additional postal fees.
- 4** Allow mail carriers to moonlight for extra cash while working. Let the postman check on customers' pets while they're away and he's dropping off the mail.
- 5** Eliminate expensive pickups by relocating all corner mailboxes to a single corner in each city.

Writer: Dick DeBartolo Artist: Kevin Pope



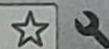
FAQs ABOUT GOOGLE'S NEW PRIVACY POLICY



FAQ - Policies & Principles



www.google.com/policies/faq/



Policies & Principles

Overview

Privacy Policy

Terms of Service

FAQ

Should I take the time to read the new Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service?

That depends. If you're an investigative journalist or civil liberties lawyer, then you should definitely not waste your time reading it. But if you're an everyday schmuck who'll get bored and confused by our legalese and rush back to HomeAloneInMomsWeddingDress.com after 15 seconds of befuddled scanning, then yes — by all means, read away!

What's different about the new Privacy Policy?

We've totally rewritten it to make it appear as benign and transparent as possible. If you'd like more information, you can click [here](#). But understand that our new policy does allow us to closely monitor those who are looking to make trouble, and to take appropriate action when necessary.

What's different about the new Google Terms of Service?

For starters, we're actively promoting it to make it seem like we're not a monolithic corporate behemoth. And how are we doing that? By e-mailing EVERY PERSON ON EARTH!

What's staying the same with Google's approach to privacy?

We want you to know that we at Google remain absolutely committed to maintaining privacy — ours! Why do you think we don't bother posting our phone number and make it so difficult for you to contact us?

What choices do I have to control how my information is used?

It's easy to change your settings to indicate you'd like more control over your personal information. Go to Google.com and in the upper right-hand corner, click on "settings." Then go to "personal settings," then "privacy settings," then "update settings." Then answer each of our 115 profile questions, which should only take 75 minutes. At the end of the survey, click "Save." This will make your web browser freeze — causing you to curse, throw up your hands in disgust and leave your information snugly in our clutches.

Is Google collecting more information about me?

Absolutely not! Our previous policy was quite proficient in collecting everything possible there is to know about you, including your credit history, hat size, favorite kinks and the frequency of your bowel movements. We're just changing the way we warehouse this information so we can access it in a moment's notice and bombard you with dozens of ads every time you look at your computer screen. We've also created a fully searchable archive of all of your emails. (Speaking of which, who's this co-worker Sheryl you keep emailing with — does your wife know about her?)

What should I expect to see change as a result of this?

Nothing at first. The whole point is that you won't even notice the changes. Then we can quietly collect all your information and slowly take over the world. But in five years when your microwave won't let you heat up a burrito until you've watched a holographic trailer for *The Expendables 4*, maybe then you'll start to piece together how things started going wrong.

What if I don't want to use Google under the new Privacy Policy and Terms of Service?

Naturally, you're not REQUIRED to use Google. You're still able to use any search engine you like. We hear great things about Hotbot! Haha-haha! Or Askjeeves! Hahahahahaha! Or Lycos! Remember Lycos?!?! HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAH! Seriously, you could switch over to a different search engine...but the detailed psychological profile we've built of you indicates that you'd never do anything so ridiculous.

Under the new Privacy Policy and Terms of Service, will my private information in Google services remain private?

Probably not. Whatever. To be honest, we feel like we've humored your little privacy concerns long enough.

And just so you know, Facebook is just going to escalate their efforts to own every shred of its users' personal information. So between us and them, by mid-2014, we'll know what everyone on earth looks like naked.

Will Google sell my personal information to third parties?

Of course not — that's sooooo Web 1.0! We prefer the term "barter." It's MUCH creepier this way. But rest assured, your data will remain closely guarded on our servers and available only to those Google partners who have paid us a fortune for this information. Also the U.S. government, the Russian Mafia and any high school hacker with a laptop, a router and an hour to kill.

How can I see what Google knows about me?

That's a stupid question. Google knows everything about you. It's what you don't know about Google that we're counting on to remain in business.

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

The Real Reasons Katy Perry and Russell Brand Got Divorced



Writer: Jeff Kruse
Artist: Anton Emdin

They easily surpassed Kim Kardashian's 72-day mark, which was the real goal

They wanted to date other overhyped celebrities

Russell was too busy working on...whatever it is he does

A guy can only eat so much whipped cream shot out of a bra

Katy had a bet with Miley Cyrus as to who could embarrass their religious parents more

You know that song about how she "kissed a girl"...

None of your business. The couple asks that the media respect their privacy at this very emotional time

PRO-ROMNEY BUMPER STICKERS

Think WAY inside the box

MITT FOR PRESIDENT 2012

ROMNEY
His child has more money than your Honor Student will see in a lifetime.

HE'LL AGREE WITH YOU SOONER OR LATER

ROMNEY 2012

ROMNEY
GIVE PLUTOCRACY A CHANCE

Writer: Jeff Kruse

LATEST CLASSIFIEDS

Writer: Scott Maiko

Audio/Video Emergency?

Let the professionals come over and help you look for the remote.
555-7678

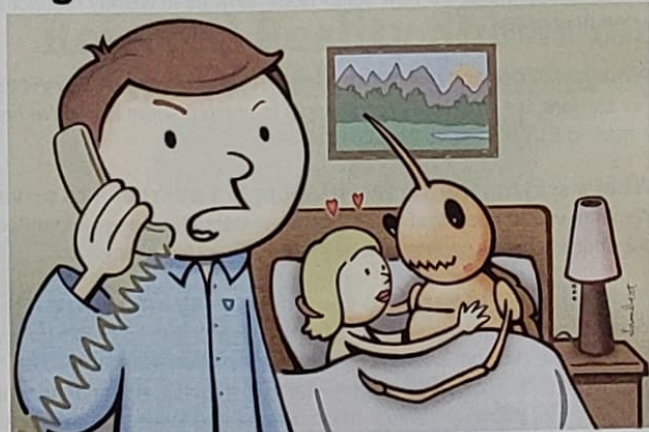
THE NUDE PLUMBER

As seen on This Old House, Renovations 2003, Kitchen Re-Dos, and America's Most Wanted.
Licensed Plumber #486552
Registered Sex Offender #275962

PHONE JACK INSTALLATION

Embittered former telephone company professional, forced into an early retirement after merger, will use outdated tools and equipment he's been stockpiling in his garage for 20 years (just in case this sort of thing happened) to install phone jacks in your house in an effort to supplement meager pension and laughable Social Security check. All work guaranteed incompatible with current telecommunications technology. You've seen my ads written in black Sharpie on torn pieces of cardboard tacked high to telephone poles...until they took them down and threatened to sue. Bastards. George 555-3428

Leg of Lambert Part 3



Writer and Artist: Jacob Lambert

"yes, it's ONLY ONE BEDBUG, But it's CAUSING A VERY serious PROBLEM!"

Hate your job?
DON'T WORRY,
HE'LL GET RID OF IT!



Let's put a WHITE MAN in the WHITE HOUSE!

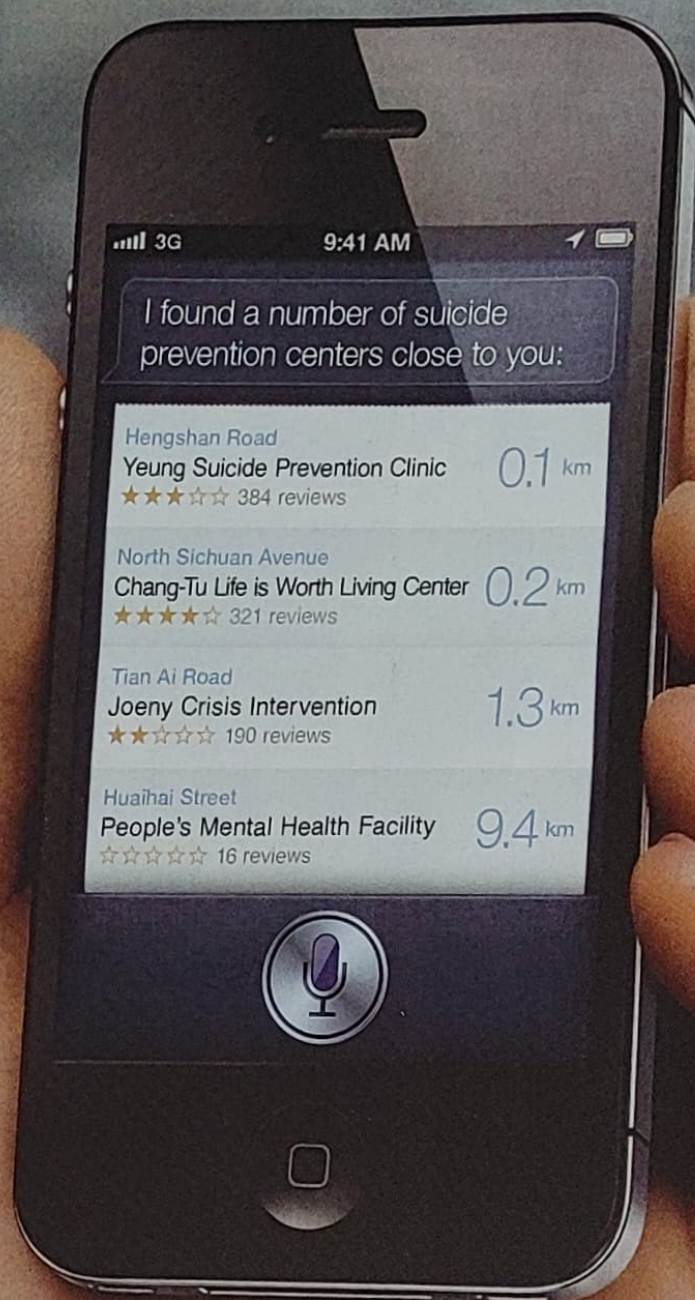
ROMNEY 2012

ROMNEY
My other car has a dog on the roof

Believe in America.
Deposit in the Caymans.

MITT FOR PRESIDENT 2012

"I just finished a 72-hour work week at the iPhone factory and want to kill myself"



You speak. Siri helps. Even though it's one of the reasons you want to kill yourself.

iPhone 4 S

It's a dreary world of agony, sadness and painful struggle. Yup, reading books sucks! But now, you lazy illiterate do-nothing, they've taken all those dull printed words and turned them into a movie! So you can sit on your indolent butt, stare vacantly, and wolf down overpriced soda, popcorn and candy to avoid...

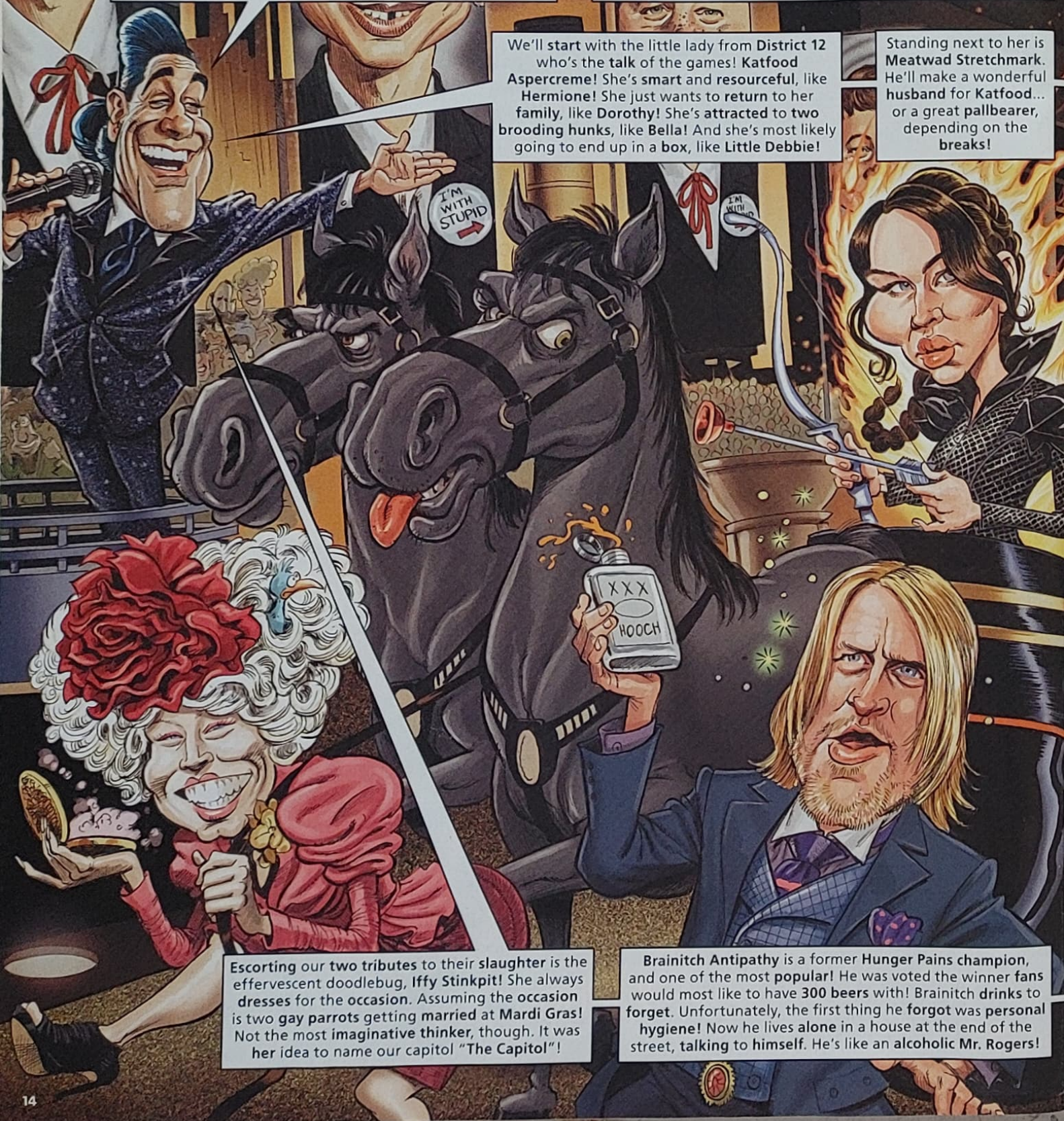
THE HUN

Welcome all, to the annual Hunger Pains! Hosted as always by the benevolent tyrants of Panic, who've been in absolute control since the rebellion was brutally crushed 75 years ago. As to the cause of the horrible bloody civil war that left America torn to pieces, history is unclear. We think it had something to do with raising the debt ceiling!

Once the uprising was extinguished, the former 50 states were divided into 12 districts, which restored order but totally f#%ed up the state quarters! Because starvation, forced labor and terror weren't solid enough reminders of our absolute power, we created the Hunger Pains! It's a little like *American Idol* if all the losers were killed. You know, an improvement!

We'll start with the little lady from District 12 who's the talk of the games! Katfood Aspercreme! She's smart and resourceful, like Hermione! She just wants to return to her family, like Dorothy! She's attracted to two brooding hunks, like Bella! And she's most likely going to end up in a box, like Little Debbie!

Standing next to her is Meatwad Stretchmark. He'll make a wonderful husband for Katfood... or a great pallbearer, depending on the breaks!



Escorting our two tributes to their slaughter is the effervescent doodlebug, Iffy Stinkpit! She always dresses for the occasion. Assuming the occasion is two gay parrots getting married at Mardi Gras! Not the most imaginative thinker, though. It was her idea to name our capitol "The Capitol"!

Brainitch Antipathy is a former Hunger Pains champion, and one of the most popular! He was voted the winner fans would most like to have 300 beers with! Brainitch drinks to forget. Unfortunately, the first thing he forgot was personal hygiene! Now he lives alone in a house at the end of the street, talking to himself. He's like an alcoholic Mr. Rogers!

GER PAINS

Following a nationwide lottery, each district is forced to send one boy and one girl for a fun-filled weekend in the great outdoors where they meet new friends, get a free makeover, become TV stars and win prizes! Plus one other detail which I'll omit for now. Kids, just make sure to bring a copy of your dental records for identification purposes!

Why, with fun like this, you can't afford NOT to play! Seriously, you can't. Any resistance whatsoever, and your families will be tortured and killed!

So let's say hello to our 24 contestants. And goodbye to 23 of them! Alas, time does not permit me to fully introduce the minor players with no dialogue, listed under the fold on imdb.com!

He's loved her ever since they were little children in their undernourished village, and he sneaked her family some rancid, week-old bread out of the garbage. In District 12, that's what's known as a great catch!

Fail Hotporn is the other man in Katfood's rapidly dwindling life, and her hunting buddy! The government has declared hunting to be against the law, but that doesn't faze him. If you knew some of the things he's imagining about Katfood, you'd realize that hunting is only about 8th on his list of illegal activities! It's too bad Fail's not a contestant. He's got several skills: hunting, tracking, and sulking!



We mustn't overlook the itty-bitsy representative from District 11. When the fighting starts, expect Poo to run and hide, hoping that she'll somehow manage to live. Obviously, District 11 is Democratic! But with all the stabbing and strangling and burning and mauling, it's a fascinating strategy. Poo may become the first Hunger Pains champion to win by old age!

President Snarl kills his citizens, he has them whipped, he firebombs their cities. That's why Fox News calls him a moderate! However, he also has a compassionate side. Before the children head into the death arena to get slaughtered, he makes sure each receives a juice box and a delicious Fruit Roll-Up!

Oh no! I'd recognize Papa's femur anywhere!

The bad news is that your father was killed today in the mines. But the good news is that he got snuffed at 12:01 pm, so he gets half a day's pay!



I'll carve the dead rat. White meat or dark?

None for me. I'll just eat my bowl of soot.

Why does hers have maggots in it?

Because today is her birthday!



Being out here in the deep green woods, alone, is the only restful part of my existence. These quiet moments are the only time I can feel tranquil and completely at peace. Ha! Wham! I nailed that sumbitch right in the eyeball!

It'd be more impressive if the animals in District 12 didn't just stand in place. They don't have any more reason to go on living than we do!



For those of you who get chosen, think of these games as a scratch-off lottery! Except we'll be scratching your names off the census list! But stand tall! Should you be killed, a street will be named after you. If this district ever gets a street, that is. And now, the first selection is...Prune Aspercreme!

No! I volunteer to replace my little sister! She's so small and weak, she'd never survive the battle. In fact, it's less than 50/50 she makes it out of this ceremony!



Feel our confidence, and use it to give you strength. We know that you'll win! We know that you'll come back to us!

Oh, we've already rented out your room!

Who's he?



It's my responsibility to line up sponsorships for the both of you, and I think I've done a good job! I've wrangled exclusive deals for wreaths, body bags, and organ and tissue donation!

As your mentor, I'm supposed to give you valuable advice. So here goes: stay alive. Also, don't die. Try not to get killed. Make sure you survive. And if you feel your heart stop beating, don't do it!

You need to be well-groomed, charming, and likeable. You're still dead meat no matter what, but it'll make your "In Memoriam" montage must-see TV!





MY district trains year-round for this event! Fighting, stabbing, choking, clubbing! In the last ten years, we've lost just 16 kids to the Hunger Pains. Plus another 750 to practice!

What fighting skills do I have? Well, I'm good at Photoshop. And origami. And I can do several of the voices from *Family Guy*!

The Hunger Pains are brutal and pitiless. But on the plus side, I doubt you'll be traumatized by them for more than a few seconds!

Boo-yah! Every shot a direct hit! With a bow and arrows, I might just stand a chance in this competition...assuming I get to fight this wooden dummy!



I've designed this dress especially for you. You can never go wrong with basic black!

Don't worry. If you wear this over your bare skin, you'll come out basic black! Now, your total makeover! You have just two small "problem areas." Your body and your head! I'm going to trim your eyebrows. I'm going to shave your legs. I'm going to remove your arm hair.

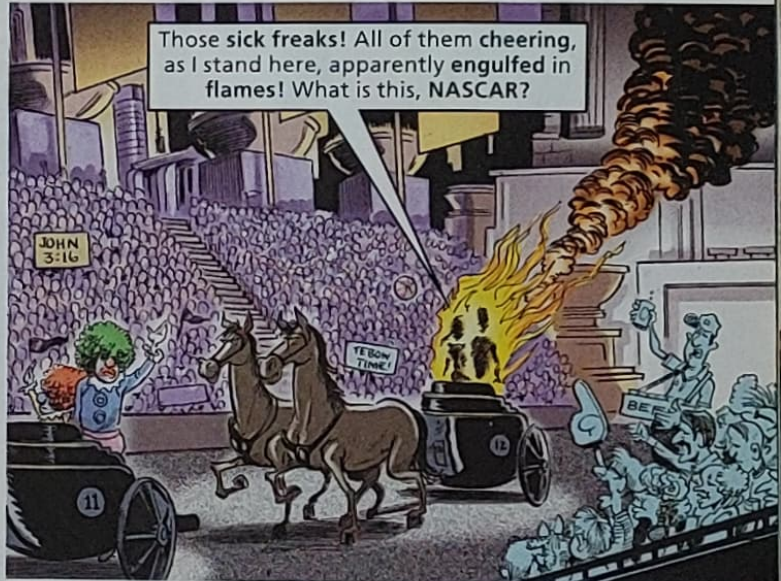
But that's a colorful flame outfit!

Will that give me the right look?

Who knows? I just like collecting hair!



Those sick freaks! All of them cheering, as I stand here, apparently engulfed in flames! What is this, NASCAR?



I'd feel better about being on this platter if I weren't surrounded by steamed vegetables!

Where'd you learn to attack human beings without remorse, snatch up stuff, and run away?

At the mall, the day after Thanksgiving! Back home, I'm the terror of Black Friday!

The girl from District Seven just got one of her arms and both of her legs ripped off!

Oooh, lucky! That gives her three new weapons to beat people over the head with!

What guts! What incredible guts! Who knew that that little kid's stomach contained so much guts?



You were smart to join our alliance. Lucky for you we had a spot suddenly open up. Right after I murdered the last guy!

I'm not totally comfortable with a group of people who are going to knife me in the back at the first opportunity.

Yeah, that's why John Boehner hasn't stopped crying since he was forced to make nice with the Tea Party! But it's a good move for you. At least when you're slaughtered by us, it won't be by some total stranger!

Meatwad is with THEM! I can't believe that he'd betray our 2-day friendship! Can't let them see me! I need to scoot up this tree and act like a pine cone!

Eegaahhh! Mutated wasps! Too many of their chemically-enhanced stings, and we're done for!

Yeah, but one spoonful of their honey and you can break Barry Bonds' all-time home run record!



Partners? But... I'm so small. Are you really going to help me?

Help you? I'm going to WEAR you, as an arrow-proof vest!



Oh, no! Another of my deep, emotional insta-relationships is over! I'm beginning to think it doesn't pay to make lifelong friends in a fight-to-the-death tournament!

Poo, let me honor your imminent death by serenading you to your final rest. "When I walk in the spot, this is what I see. Everybody stops and they staring at me! I got passion in my pants and I ain't afraid to show it. I'm sexy and I know it! I'm sexy and I know it! Wiggle, wiggle, wiggle, wiggle, wiggle yeah! Wiggle, wiggle, wiggle..." She...she's gone. And I never even got the chance to do "Moves Like Jagger"!



Meatwad! You're alive! I'm so happy! Mmmm, num num num!

Does this mean you're starting to have feelings for me?

Vaguely! But you had a piece of stew on your upper lip!

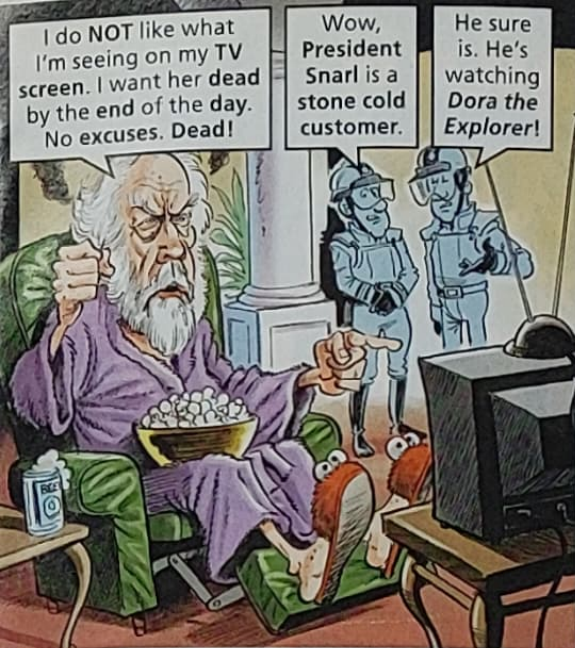


Look, part of the strategy is getting the viewers to like us. Then they'll give us supplies, and we'll have a better chance to survive. So even if our love is an act, can you ham it up for the camera a little?

Oh my darling, yes! Yes, I will! I can face anything if I can be in your arms. Will you be my love, always and always? Tell me your answer, yes or no...after THESE important messages from our sponsor!

Needs work. But it's STILL more sincere than Kim Kardashian!

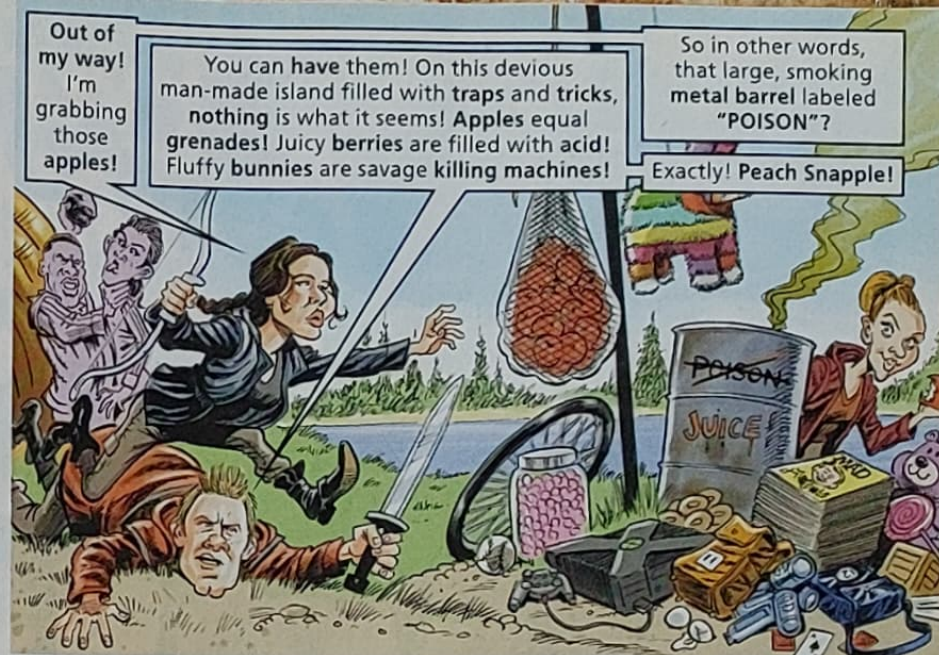




I do NOT like what I'm seeing on my TV screen. I want her dead by the end of the day. No excuses. Dead!

Wow, President Snarl is a stone cold customer.

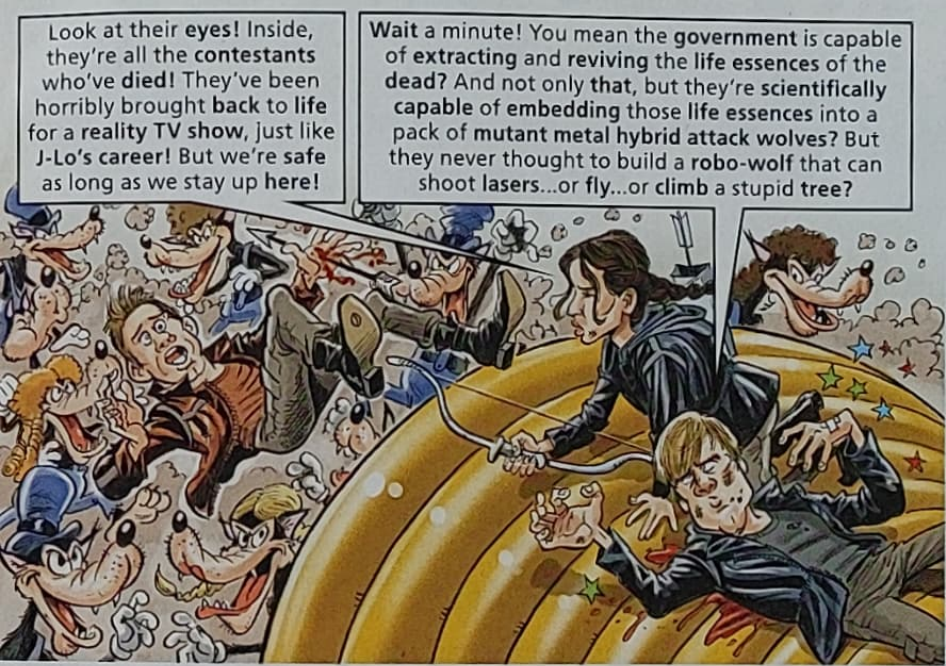
He sure is. He's watching *Dora the Explorer*!



Out of my way! I'm grabbing those apples!

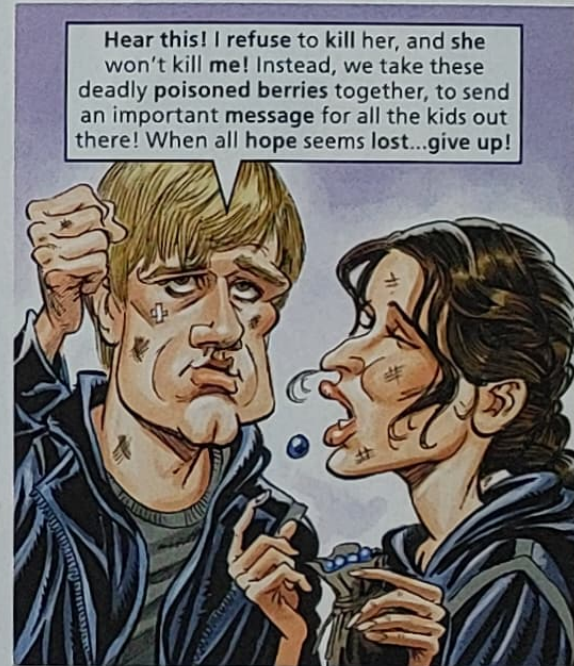
You can have them! On this devious man-made island filled with traps and tricks, nothing is what it seems! Apples equal grenades! Juicy berries are filled with acid! Fluffy bunnies are savage killing machines!

So in other words, that large, smoking metal barrel labeled "POISON"? Exactly! Peach Snapple!



Look at their eyes! Inside, they're all the contestants who've died! They've been horribly brought back to life for a reality TV show, just like J-Lo's career! But we're safe as long as we stay up here!

Wait a minute! You mean the government is capable of extracting and reviving the life essences of the dead? And not only that, but they're scientifically capable of embedding those life essences into a pack of mutant metal hybrid attack wolves? But they never thought to build a robo-wolf that can shoot lasers...or fly...or climb a stupid tree?



Hear this! I refuse to kill her, and she won't kill me! Instead, we take these deadly poisoned berries together, to send an important message for all the kids out there! When all hope seems lost...give up!



Listen, you're in trouble! The Capitol isn't happy about having to declare two co-winners. Up until now, they've starved you, they've enslaved you, they've burned you, they've scarred you. But NOW, those dudes are pissed! It's no more Mr. Nice Dystopia!



Fail or Meatwad? Meatwad or Fail? I'm torn between two equally hunky romantic interests with limited acting range! But which one will I ultimately choose?

Meatwad Stretchmark, you've just won a life-time supply of food, a fancy house, and a huge amount of money! Mmmm, Meatwad's lookin' GOOD!

The audience must be shocked! Imagine, forcing a random group of strangers to fight for survival on a violent, mysterious island, constantly being watched, but in the end their drama dribbles to an unsatisfactory conclusion!

Eh. It's been done!



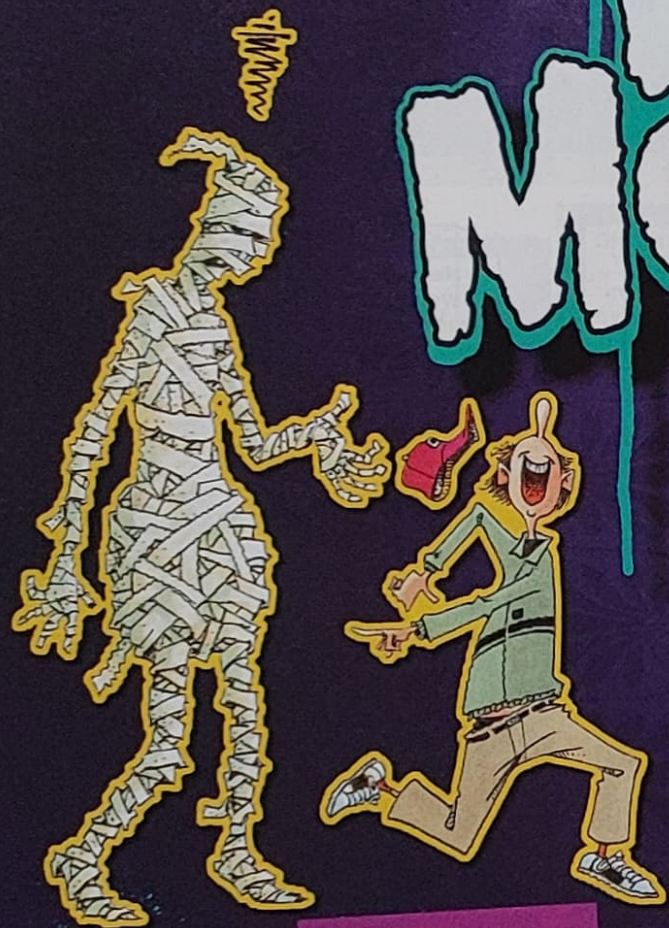
THERE'S NO GHOUL LIKE AN OLD GHOUL DEPT.

Between terrorizing the populace, frightening little kids, and eating whoever you want, being a monster usually seems like a pretty glamorous thing. But what's often forgotten is that as they get older, monsters have to cope with the same depressing issues as aging mortal coots. So pop an Ex-Lax, tighten your Depends, and prepare to be scared stiff by this horrifically comprehensive list of...

Everyday Annoyances of

ELDERLY MONSTERS

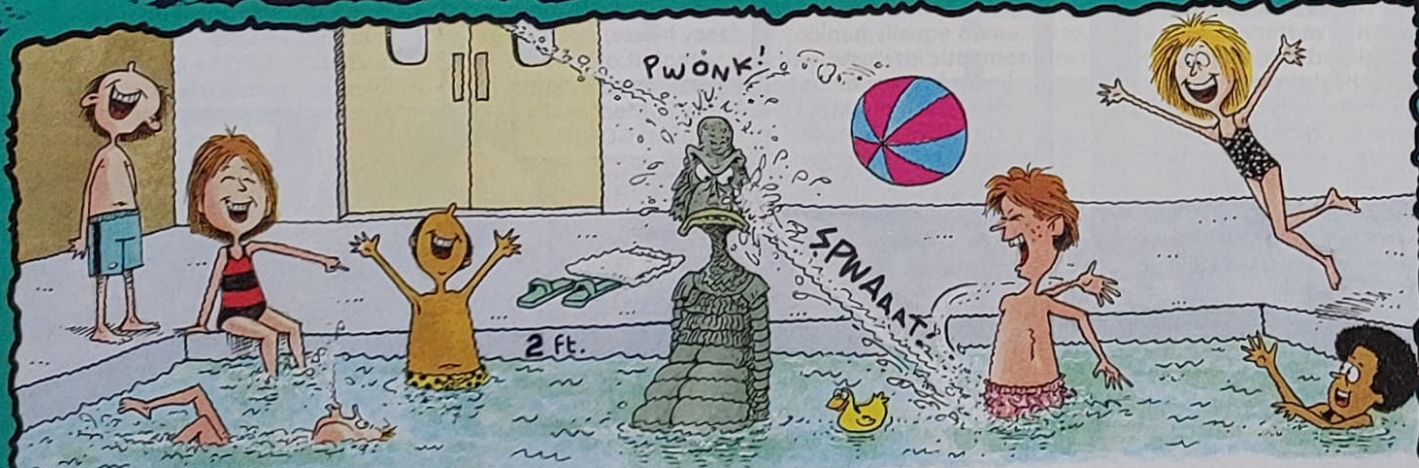
WRITER AND ARTIST: JOHN CALDWELL



Visible diaper lines



Needing another hip replacement and then getting conned into doing most of the digging



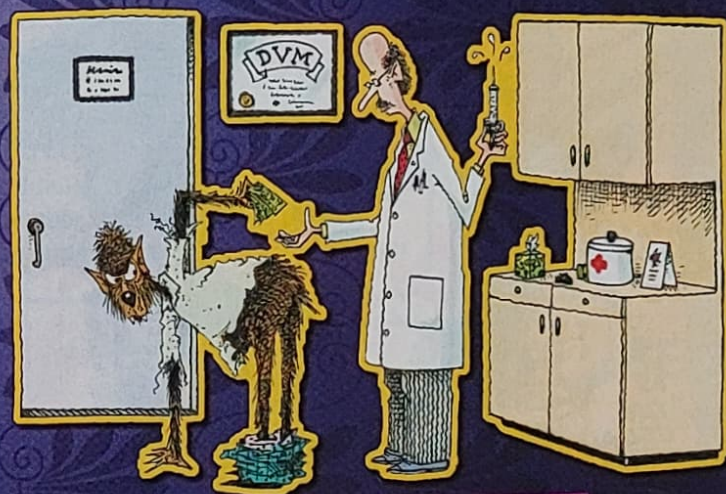
Adult swim at the community center cut to a crummy two hours a day



The eyesight ain't what it used to be



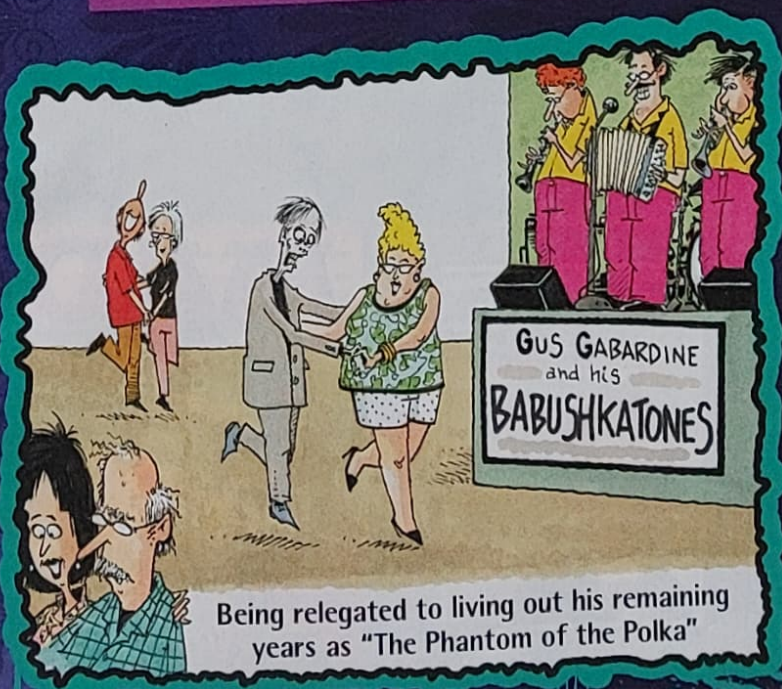
Measly alimony check from Ol' Bolt-Brain barely keeps her in Bingo money



Having to deal with the fact that Medicare doesn't cover distemper boosters



Early-bird specials that end well before sundown



Being relegated to living out his remaining years as "The Phantom of the Polka"



Having to gum commuter trains

DIGITAL DUMBNESS!

NOW YOU CAN EXPERIENCE

THE BEST IN IDIOCY

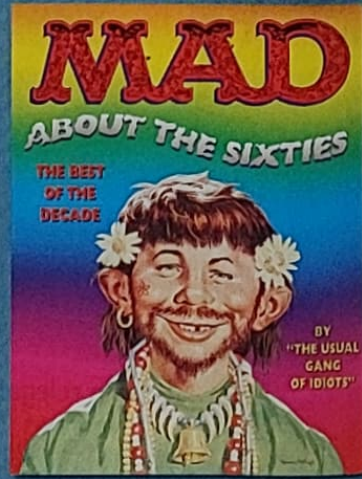
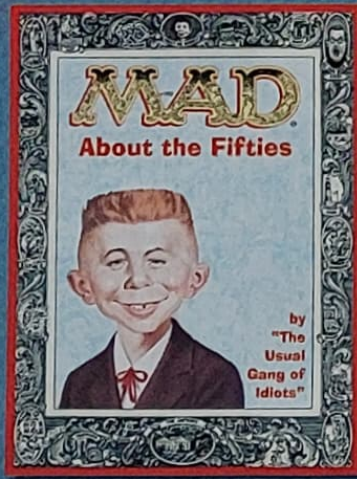
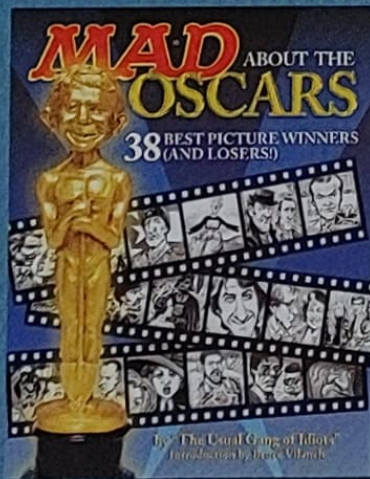
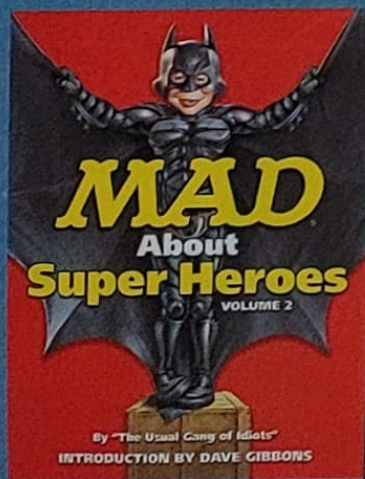
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THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY!

NOW AVAILABLE
FOR YOUR
KINDLE FIRE
WITH ONE CLICK AT
AMAZON.COM



ALSO AVAILABLE



HAZARD FRAUGHT TOOLS

Low-Quality Tools at Ridiculous Prices

HOW DO WE DO IT?

How does Hazard Fraught Tools sell low-quality merchandise to such a willing public? By convincing men that even though they don't need any of this stuff, owning it will make them feel more "manly." Seriously guys, how often are you going to use that reciprocating hydraulic miter clamp? Besides, why waste extra money on quality tools that you could someday hand down to your son or grandson? They won't care and neither will you, since you'll be dead. Save that money and buy something you can **really** use, like a large plastic jar — the kind you buy at Costco that's filled with stale pretzels — full of bungee cords (Aisle 6-A). Remember, it's always good to have seven dozen spare bungee cords around!

USELESS
COUPON!



FREE!
WITH ANY PURCHASE

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3-1/2"
SUPER BRIGHT
9 LED ALUMINUM
FLASHLIGHT**

Compare To Those Expensive
\$8.99 Models They're Now Selling
At The Dollar Store For A Dollar.

ITEM 020564
OUR REG. PRICE \$6.99

No rainchecks. Limited to stock on hand. And we're already out. In fact, we specifically direct our store managers to not order these when we're running this coupon. Offer good only on item shown, not on three other identical models we carry with different stock numbers. We trust you're reading this fine print only after you've come into the store.

USELESS
COUPON!

48-PIECE SCREWDRIVER SET

- Standard flathead
- Standard Phillips head
- Plus 46 others you'll never use but will have to sort through in your toolbox to get to the one that you need

ITEM 102772

\$24⁹⁹
REG. PRICE \$19.99

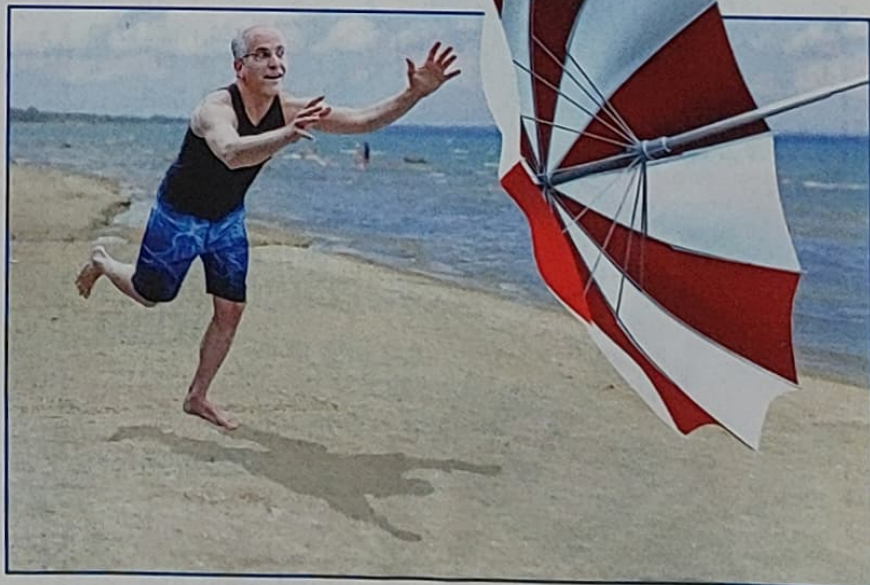


SELF-TUMBLING PATIO UMBRELLA

"Roaming" patio and beach umbrellas are specially weighted to take off in the slightest breeze. Fun way to meet your neighbors as you retrieve it — or, at the shore, to become the next viral video sensation as dozens of beachgoers videotape you chasing an elusive parasol endlessly down the sand like a jackass

ITEM 190571

\$24⁹⁹
REG. PRICE \$9.99



WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO

ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER

USELESS
COUPON!

80-PIECE ROTARY NOSE-PICKING KIT

ITEM 808080

\$49⁹⁹
REG. PRICE \$29.99



FACTORY DIRECT TO YOU!

We stock everything from low-grade Shop Equipment, Hand Tools, Compressors and Welders to, inexplicably, Wheel Chairs and Cat Toys. If it can be manufactured cheaply in safety regulation-free China and shipped to the USA without having to adhere to any import requirements, we carry it! Remember, it's always good to have some spare bungee cords around!

HAZARD FRAUGHT TOOLS

6" WHALE-GUTTING KNIFE

Also ideal for most walrus carcasses

ITEM WH6480

\$9⁹⁹
REG. PRICE \$2.99



6" MOHEL KNIFE

Also ideal for most walrus brisket

ITEM 117114

\$3⁹⁹
REG. PRICE \$1.99



8-FUNCTION ELECTRONIC MULTI-TOOL

- AC/DC voltage tester
- Meat thermometer
- Gaydar
- Searchable Bible
- Paternity tester
- Corn-on-the-cob holder

ITEM KC091710

\$9⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$5.99



HEAVY-DUTY PNEUMATIC SLIDE WHISTLE

ITEM 070033



Your Choice!

\$69⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$34.99



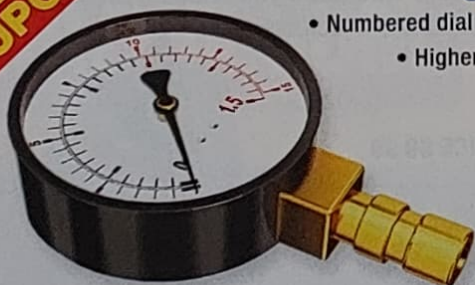
18-VOLT CORDLESS HAMMER

ITEM 100199

LIFETIME WARRANTY ON ALL HAND TOOLS

made by Craftsman and sold at Sears, we've heard

**USELESS
COUPON!**



SOME KIND OF GAUGE

- Numbered dial w/ black needle
- Higher numbered area in "danger" red

ITEM 198906

\$9⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$2.99

**USELESS
COUPON!**



16" MANUAL CHAINSAW

ITEM TXS1974

\$79⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$49.99

**USELESS
COUPON!**



8-OUNCE SOLID BRASS CARPENTER'S DREIDEL

ITEM 82930

\$14⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$9.99

**USELESS
COUPON!**



50-FT GARDEN HOSE/ EXTENSION CORD COMBO

Do not get cord wet.

ITEM 50WZZZ

\$29⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$13.99

USELESS COUPON!



\$59⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$59.99

BUY NOW! Don't make us lower the price further and run a bigger coupon in next month's flyer!

MEGLINATING VARIABLE INTENSITY MULTIFUNCTION POWER TOOL

8 Functions:

- Untranking concrete hex finials
- Retranking floating lug grout*
- Anomorgling deck shims
- Preneumanizing subdivots
- Torquening slotted camshanks
- Synchrofusing synthetic toggle bearings
- Electromuting compressed velonoid laminate
- Removing ear wax

*Submersible dual-angle inverted caliper attachment required. (Sold separately.)

21,000 MEGLINATIONS PER MINUTE

**USMVIMFPTA
RATED**



**The Tool
That No One
Has
Ever Paid
Full Price for
Anywhere!™**

ON SALE FOR FOUR YEARS STRAIGHT AND WE'VE STILL GOT A WAREHOUSE FULL OF 'EM!

Mark Your Calendar!

NEXT FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY!

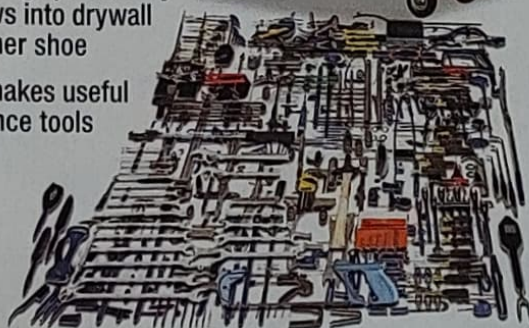
DISORGANIZED • UNDERSTAFFED PARKING LOT SALE

*Somehow our merchandise seems more appealing
when presented in an environment reminiscent of a yard sale!*



OVERWHELMING 148-PIECE TOOL KIT

- All tools guaranteed to be subpar even by our standards
- Miniature, near-useless versions of real tools that no one would buy separately
- Perfect gift for daughter's first apartment despite the fact that she doesn't know how to change a light bulb and hangs pictures by hammering screws into drywall with the heel of her shoe
- 4-drawer chest makes useful makeup caddy once tools are tossed away



ITEM 148TK00

\$64⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$49.99

16-TON HYDRAULIC NAIL UNBENDER

Stop throwing away your money on wasted nails!

ITEM 666911

\$139⁴⁹

REG. PRICE \$89.99



BONO SAFETY GOGGLES

Protect eyes and maintain inflated sense of self-importance when using power tools

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\$12⁴⁹

REG. PRICE \$10.99



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COUPON!**



LASER-GUIDED PAINT BRUSH

- In 2", 3", 4" widths
- Laser pointer accurately guides user towards surface to be painted
- Warning: Remove cats from room when painting

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\$14⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$7.99

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COUPON!**



MORON LAMP

ITEM 131385

\$8⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$1.99

**USELESS
COUPON!**



MUPPET-GRADE FELT WORK GLOVES

Choose from Big Bird,
Ernie, Cookie Monster

ITEM 19PBS69

\$6⁹⁹/Pr.

REG. PRICE \$3.99

**USELESS
COUPON!**



KEY-SHAPED FOLDING MINI-MACHETE

Add tiny, useless key-knife to
keychain and completely forget
about it until TSA agents discover
it the next time you fly.

ITEM RN1814

\$2⁴⁹

REG. PRICE \$1.99



12 HP, 4500-WATT NOISE & FUME GENERATOR

Be the one a-hole in the neighborhood who overreacts to a half-hour power outage after a summer thunderstorm. Or take it camping and destroy the peace and quiet for everyone around you. Runs on peculiar gasoline/diesel formula (which you mix yourself!) for maximum noxiousness.

ITEM 451245W

\$319⁹⁹

REG. PRICE \$249.99

6' X 8' RICKETY ALUMINUM GREENHOUSE

- Assemble in an afternoon
- Disassemble the next afternoon after citation from Homeowners' Association
- Barely big enough to turn around in
- Cheap plastic sheeting punctures with pine needles, heavy rain

ITEM GR710519

\$349⁹⁹

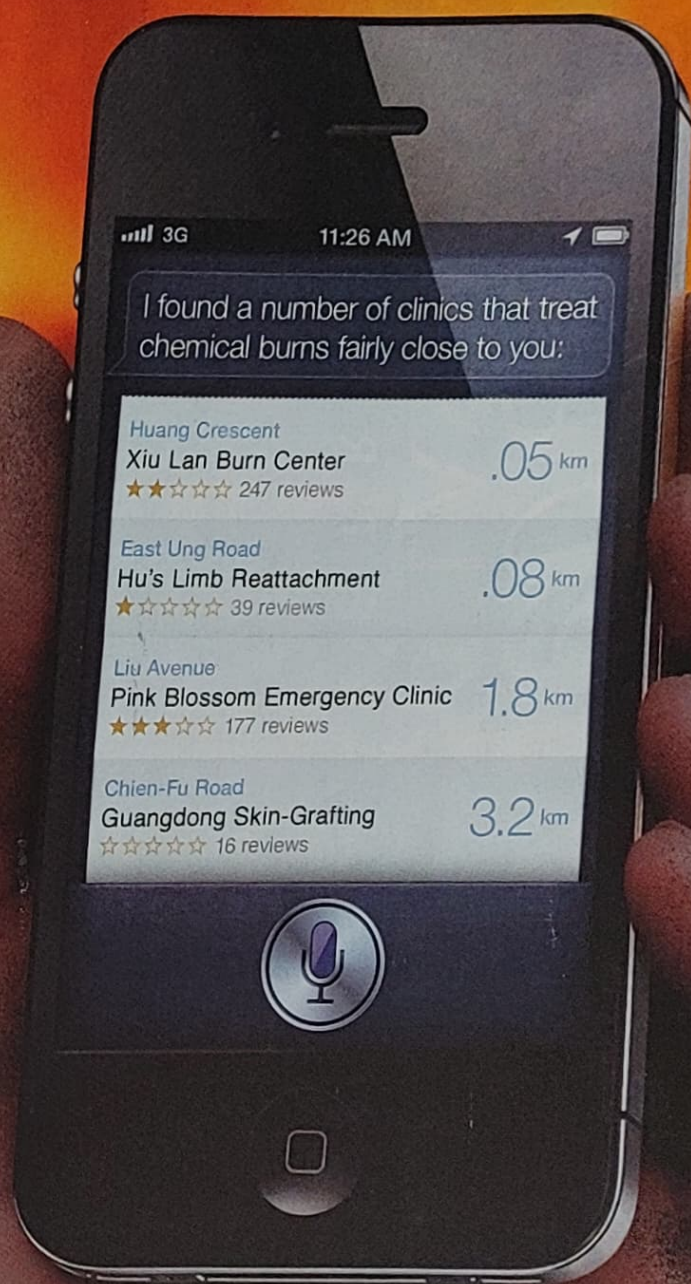
REG. PRICE \$299.99



HAZARD FRAUGHT TOOLS

THE **EXACT SAME CRAP** AT THE **EXACT SAME PRICES**
AS IN LAST WEEK'S FLYER, JUST ARRANGED DIFFERENTLY!

"I've been in an explosion at the iPhone factory"



You speak. Siri helps. Say hello to the most amazing iPhone yet made by exploited workers.

 iPhone 4 

THE
CHAMBERVILLE
CITY TOWN
ORCHESTRA

PROUDLY* PRESENTS
*NOT REALLY

Deaf-Driven

FEATURING
GUEST CONDUCTOR

KOKO
THE
SIGN-LANGUAGE
GORILLA

A R E T R O S P E C T I V E

March of the Sissy Men (1913)

IVANOFF KLUBELZICEK

Originally composed for ukulele, this piece now tends to be played mainly on tuba.

Requiem for Dipwads (1915)

EDWARD OSTERBOOSTEN

Osterboosten wrote his first opera at the age of eight, which may be why it contains several references to belching, dog doo, and boogers.

BFD in C Minor (1877)

JEAN-JACQUES SOUTENU

Like Beethoven, Soutenu was deaf. Unlike Beethoven, he had no musical talent, which is why this selection consists of randomly banging on a piano for fifteen minutes.



Funeral Dirge for Bongos (1788)

ALBRECHT LEGUME

Centuries before Lady Gaga, Albrecht Legume referred to his fans as "Little Monsters." Of course, most of his concerts were performed at juvenile prisons, so it wasn't really an endearing term.

Hungary Hungary Hippo Rhapsody (1844)

FRANZ HASBRO

The original manuscript is currently on display in a Budapest delicatessen, right above the door to the meat locker.

Dance of the 3-Legged Hermaphrodites (1855)

DAMIAN DORKELL

Dorkell tried to revolutionize music in the early 20th century by insisting that flutes and oboes be used as percussion instruments. Key word there: "tried."

Violins Shrieking Until You Want to Kill Yourself (1907)

PETROVIC SHTRUD

Shtrud invented an instrument called the Cetaphone, which consisted of blue whale baleen and had to be played using a ladder. Fortunately, this opus does not use one.

Engue for a Rotting Sheep Carcass (1799)

ANTONINI BARGELLO

The King of Sweden commissioned this piece, which debuted in February of 1799. Bargello was executed in August of that year. We're just sayin'...

Sternbaagen's Unfinished Sandwich (2002)

CHAD STERNHAAGEN

Concert goers noted when this concerto opened, though that was only because the Lakers won the NBA title during intermission.

Fanfare for Aquaman (1965)

LORD LIONEL APPLEROT

Applerot wrote this upon learning of the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo. Better late than never, we guess.

Tone Poem #3: The Man from Nantucket (1896)

LUIGI DISGUSTAMUNDO

Do not confuse this work with Tone Poem #2, which is currently used in TV ads for a laxative in Europe.

CONCERT BEGINS AT 7:30
IN THE
GRAY LAKE JUNIOR HIGH
AUDITORIUM

SIMULCAST ON
WZZZ, 97.3 FM

"THE TRI-CITY AREA'S #2 CLASSICAL MUSIC STATION,
IF YOU DON'T COUNT CLASSIC ROCK"

BRING YOUR OWN CHARDONNAY

THIS THEATER IS A NO-SMOKING AREA, BUT ONLY IN THE EVEN-NUMBERED AISLES

WRITER: JEFF KRUSE

CONDUCTOR BODY: DAVIDSREINER / DREAMSTIME.COM

GORILLA HEAD: XAVIER MARCHANT / DREAMSTIME.COM

GORILLA LEFT HAND: COMJUNFO / DREAMSTIME.COM

ORCHESTRA: TRENC / DREAMSTIME.COM



SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

SERGIO ARAGONES
Presents

A MAD LOOK AT

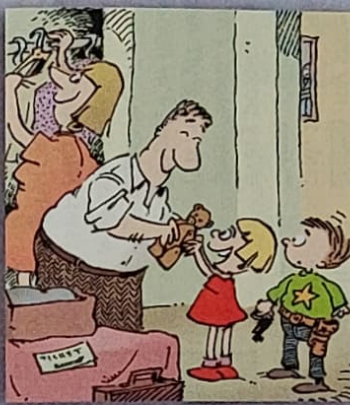


WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES COLORIST: TOM LUTH

AIRPORT SECURITY







PLANET TAD!!!!

ABOUT ME » NAME: TAD » AGE: 4π » LENGTH OF INTESTINES: 22 FEET (GIVE OR TAKE)



May 4, 2012

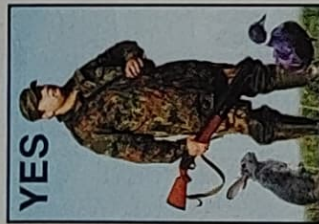
Today's lunch in our school cafeteria was all Mexican food, in celebration of Cinco de Mayo. Doug Spivak asked our Spanish teacher, Señora Lutz, what Cinco de Mayo means in Spanish, and she said, "It means May 5th." And he said, "Why would you name a holiday after the day it's on?" And she said, "Why don't you go ask the people who named the Fourth of July?" Good point.

May 7, 2012

So, this morning at breakfast, my little sister Sophie was looking at the local newspaper when she shrieked. And my mom said, "What is it?" And she said, "They're holding auditions for a TV commercial this weekend! They're looking for adorable blonde 8-year-olds! That's me!" And my mom said, "You're not 8." And my dad said, "You're not blonde." And I said, "You're not adorable." And then my mom and dad gave me a dirty look, and I said, "What? I thought we were taking turns!"

May 8, 2012

Here's what I can never understand about the Looney Tunes cartoons: Even on their hind legs, rabbits and ducks are no more than one foot tall. And even at their very shortest, humans are usually at least four feet tall. So: Are Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck freakishly huge animals, or is Elmer Fudd super-tiny?



May 11, 2012

Well, my parents agreed to let my sister audition for that commercial, so she's been practicing her one line — "Mom, I'm hungry!" — nonstop. She's tried it every possible way: "Mom, I'm hungry!" and then "Mom, I'm hungry!" and then "Mom, I'm hungry!" And then, weirdest of all, "Mom, I'm hungry!", where she emphasized all three words by shouting them. But they all sounded sort of wooden and fake, like if Nicholas Cage were a seven-year-old girl.

May 12, 2012

Today was Sophie's audition, and my mom dragged me along to it. So I had to spend forever sitting in a room full of little girls, most of them in blonde wigs, all saying, over and over again, "Mom, I'm hungry!" It was actually super-creepy, like a Disney Channel zombie movie.

After an hour of waiting, some lady with a clipboard came out and said Sophie could come in to audition. And then, like, 30 seconds later, Sophie and my mom came out again — Sophie didn't get the part.



As we left the offices, Sophie said, "Mom, I'm hungry!" And I said, "Hey! That sounded pretty convincing!" And she said, "What? I'm not acting. I'm really hungry." In hindsight, I guess, if we'd wanted Sophie to get the part, we should've just starved her for a day.

May 14, 2012

Well, this is weird: We got a call today from the casting agency where my sister went to audition. They're still not interested in Sophie, but they're looking to cast a kid for some organic grocery-store commercial, and the casting lady remembered me. She said I have the "look" they're going for. So I'm going in on Saturday to shoot the commercial. Sophie's refusing to speak to me, which is funny, because I think that she thinks that constitutes a punishment for me.

May 17, 2012

I'm excited for this new "Battleship" movie. Although the board game movie I'd be more excited to see would be "Chess," because I'd like to see a scene where a horse that can't move in a straight line demolishes a castle, while a bishop runs away diagonally.



May 19, 2012

I shot the commercial today. It was weird. I asked if they had a script or anything, and they said I didn't need one — all they wanted me to do was take a bite out of a hamburger. And so I did, over and over and over, as they shot a lot of takes. After around the 15th take, just when I was going to throw up from eating so many bites of hamburger, someone said, "You know, you can spit that out if you want." I kind of wish someone had said that to me sooner.



May 22, 2012

I'm really psyched — my commercial is going to start airing tomorrow. I've told everyone at school. It's a big deal — no one in our class has been on TV since Toby Kim got on the local news for having his foot run over by a lawnmower last summer. Everyone's super-excited about it, except maybe for Toby Kim, who I think is jealous of the attention — after six months of seeming totally fine, he started limping around the hallway again yesterday and claiming that he was having "lawnmower flashbacks."

But mostly, people seem happy for me — Kelli Davis even invited me to sit next to her at lunch today, and asked me all about what it was like to be in a commercial. (I considered telling her about the part where I almost threw up, but decided against it.)

May 23, 2012

Ugh. My commercial for that grocery store aired tonight. It turns out, the part that I'm in — where I eat the burger — was at the very beginning of the commercial. They showed me eating the hamburger slowed-down and in black-and-white, and a voiceover went, "Do you know what's in your children's food? A lot of stores' meat contains hormones, steroids, and fecal material. That's right: Fecal material." And then the words "Fecal Material!!!" were stamped over my face.

After the commercial, Sophie said, "What's 'fecal material' mean?" And when my mom explained it to her, she rolled all over the floor and said, "Tad! You ate a poopburger! On TV!"

Here's the thing that upsets me most: it's not that I ate a poopburger on TV. It's not even that Kelli Davis will, I'm pretty sure, never invite me to eat at her lunch table again. It's that the casting agency said I had "the look" they were looking for. So apparently, I look like a kid who'd eat a poopburger.

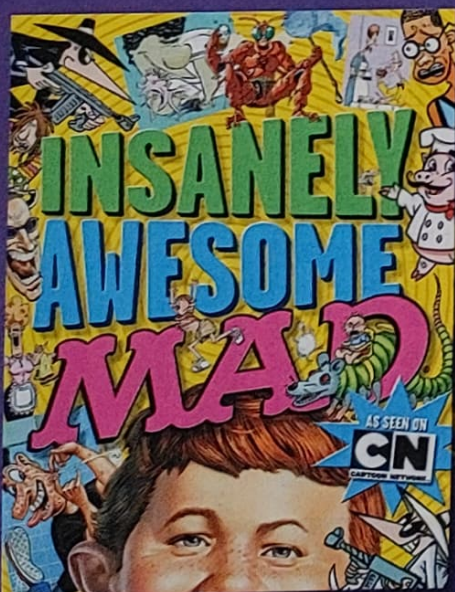
WRITER: TIM CARVELL

Every Once in a While, a Truly Funny Book Comes Along.

UNTIL
THAT
TIME,
BUY...

Odd, stupid and ridiculous articles from the pages of **MAD**. Specially collected for fans of **MAD**, the hit Cartoon Network show!

And while you're at it, why not **double down** on **dumbness** and pick up...



Another collection of odd, stupid and ridiculous articles! (We never run out!)

BOTH ARE
AVAILABLE **WHEREVER**
BOOKS ARE SOLD!

AND AT SELECT HARDWARE,
LINGERIE AND BUTCHER SHOPS!

PEN AND STINK DEPT.

THE STRIP CLUB

PUT A QUIRK IN IT

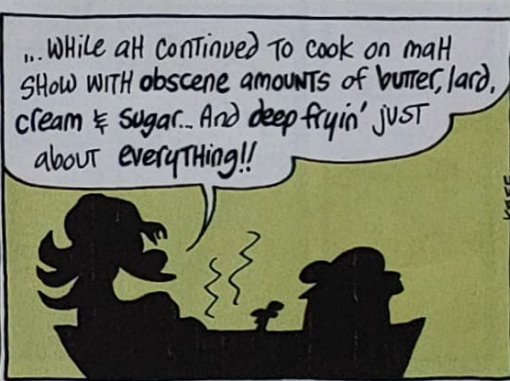
SNAKE TUFFLY
THE EYEPATCH ASSASSIN
~IN~
"BRAND NEW LASER SIGHT"



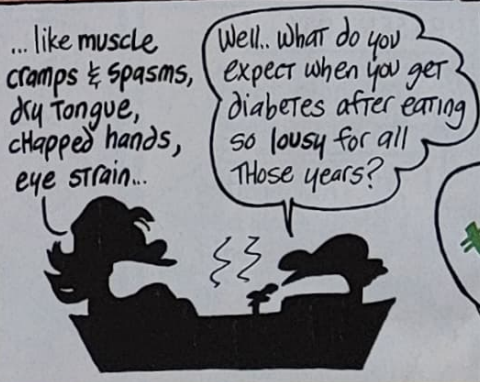
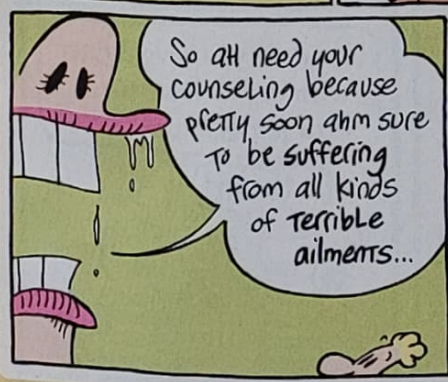
TUNE IN NEXT WEEK FOR THE ALL NEW ADVENTURES OF:
SNAKE TUFFLY
THE DOUBLE EYEPATCH ASSASSIN

NATHAN BULMER

FATHER O' FLANNITY'S HOT TUB CONFESSIONS
WITH PAULA DEEN!!

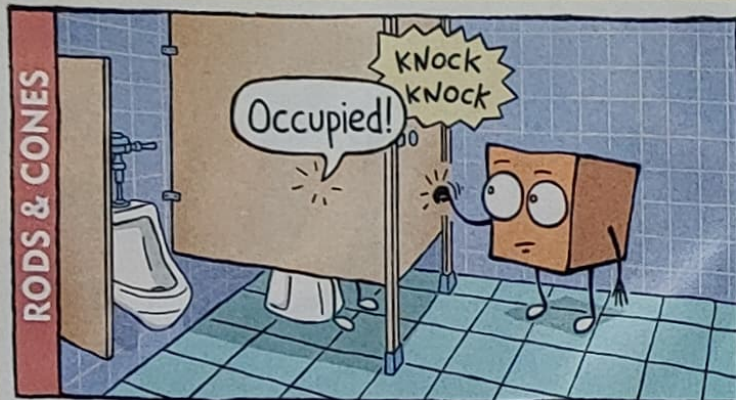


KEEF



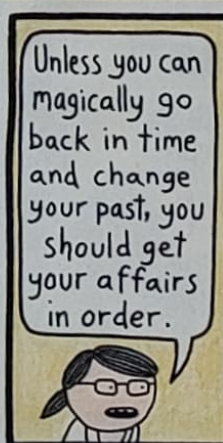
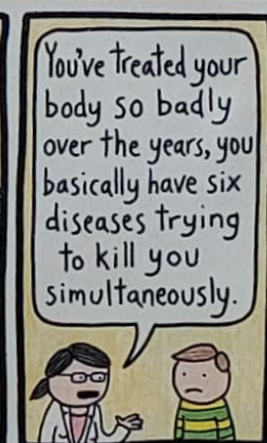
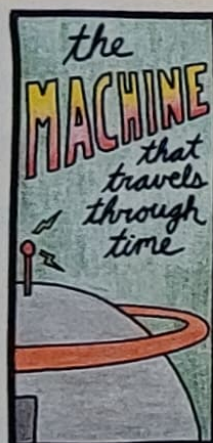
KEITH KNIGHT





-brian.

BRIAN GORDON



JOEY ALISON SAYERS

THE DORK SIDE



SCOTT NICKEL

WHAT IF DOG WAS ONE OF US?



KENNY KEIL

m i s t e r m o r a l s



LANCE HANSEN

IT ONLY HURTS WHEN I LAUGH



YOU'LL NEVER REACH THE GROUND, YOU KNOW.



WHAT?!!

I FOUND OUT ABOUT YOU SLEEPING WITH MY GIRLFRIEND, AND SO I CUT YOUR PARACHUTE STRINGS.



PWOOF!

TAKE THAT, YOU SWINE!

YANK!

WELL, I WANTED **YOU** OUT OF THE PICTURE SO I COULD HAVE HER ALL TO MYSELF, AND SO I CUT **YOURS!** HA!

WHAT?!!



TOUCHÉ!

PWOOF!

YANK!

HAHA! I COULDN'T HELP OVER-HEARING YOU GUYS. **SNORT** I'VE BEEN SLEEPING WITH OUR PILOT FOR MONTHS, **HAHAHAHA!** AND WAS BORED OF BOTH OF YOU **SNORT** AND CUT **BOTH** YOUR STRINGS! **HAHAHAHAHA!**



SO THEY WERE CUT TWICE. HILARIOUS!

HAHAHA SNORT HA SNORT HAHAHA SNORT!

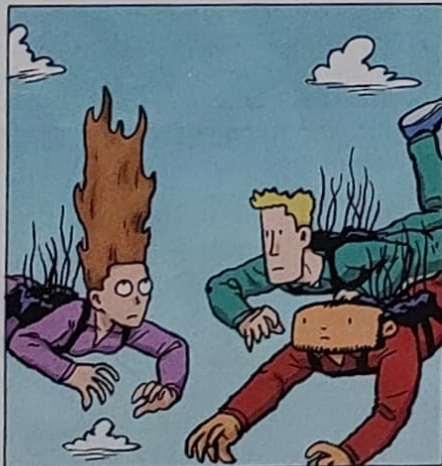


HAHAHA SEE YA LATER SNORT SUCKERS!



PWOOF!

YANK!



SPLUP!

SPLUP!

SPLUP!

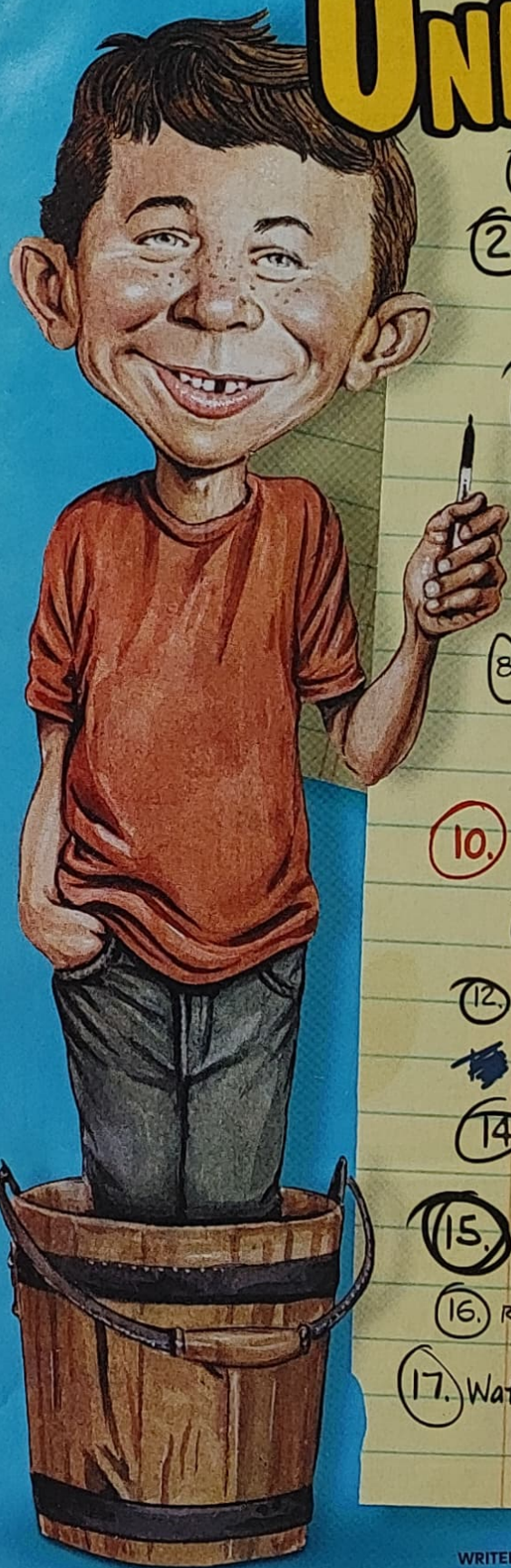


MANN, HER LAUGH WAS ANNOYING.

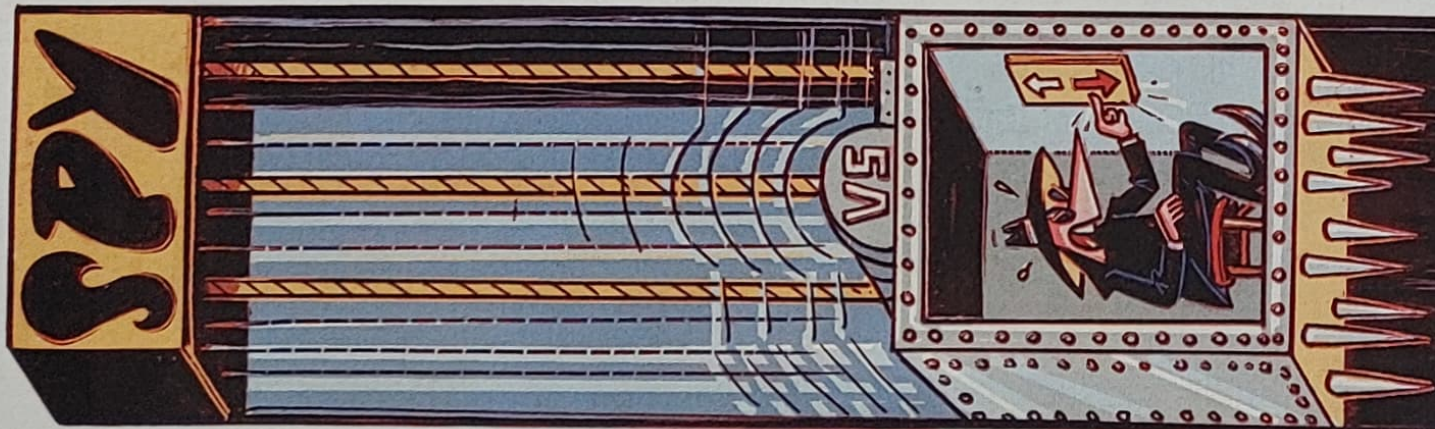
CHRISTOPHER BALDWIN



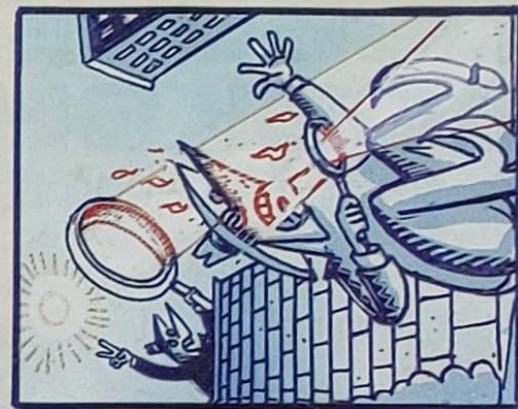
A BUCKET LIST FOR UNDERACHIEVERS



- ① Swim with some people who swam with dolphins.
- ② Write a customer book review for a best-seller on Amazon.
- ③ Visit the top of the Eiffel Tower replica in Las Vegas.
- ④ Call A Number written on a bathroom stall - and follow through.
- ⑤ Run a 5K marathon registration table.
- ⑥ See a poster of the Mona Lisa up close.
- ⑦ Be granted an audience with Ron Popeil
- ⑧ Watch a gourmet meal prepared on The Food Network
- ⑨ Gather the entire extended family together for a reunion on Facebook.
- ⑩ Clean out the damn Gutters!
- ⑪ Travel the entire length of Route 66 in front of my computer via Google Street View
- ⑫ Realize the dream of giving up on home ownership.
- ⑬ See an Eagles cover band - live.
- ⑭ Visit the Great Wall of China all-you-can-eat seafood buffet in Reseda, California.
- ⑮ Learn to say "no spare change" in 10 languages.
- ⑯ Read the Cliff's Notes for "1,000 Books to Read Before You Die."
- ⑰ Watch all six Star Wars films before George Lucas changes them again.



JOKE AND DAGGER DEPT.



OCCUPY YOUR BOOKSHELF!

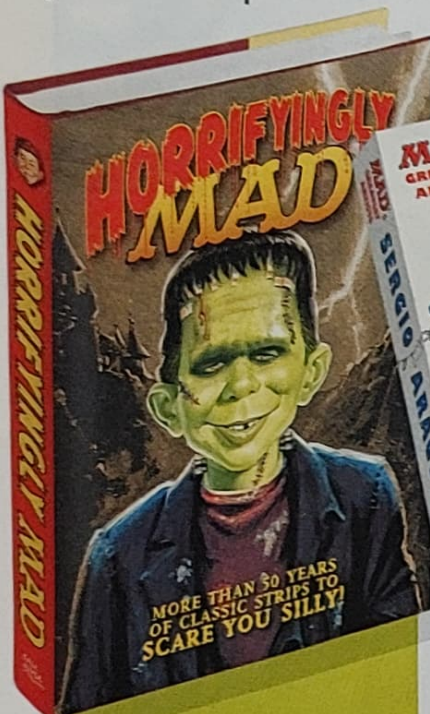
(And help us become part of the 1%!)



SPECIAL DIGEST SIZE!
Includes 65 Explosive Adventures by Peter Kuper!

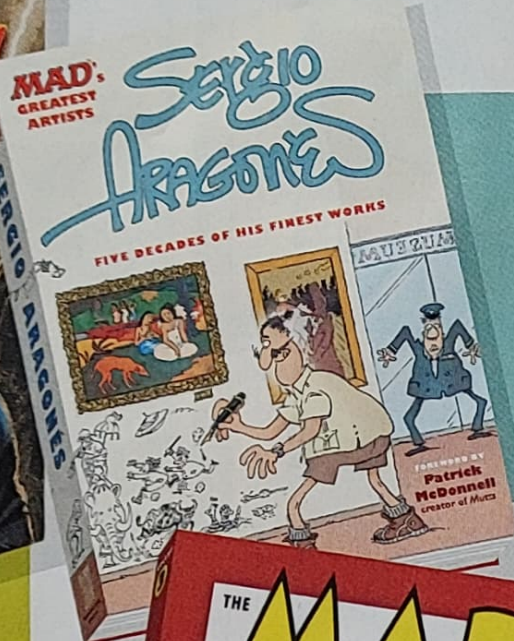


INCLUDES A FOREWORD BY GEORGE LUCAS!



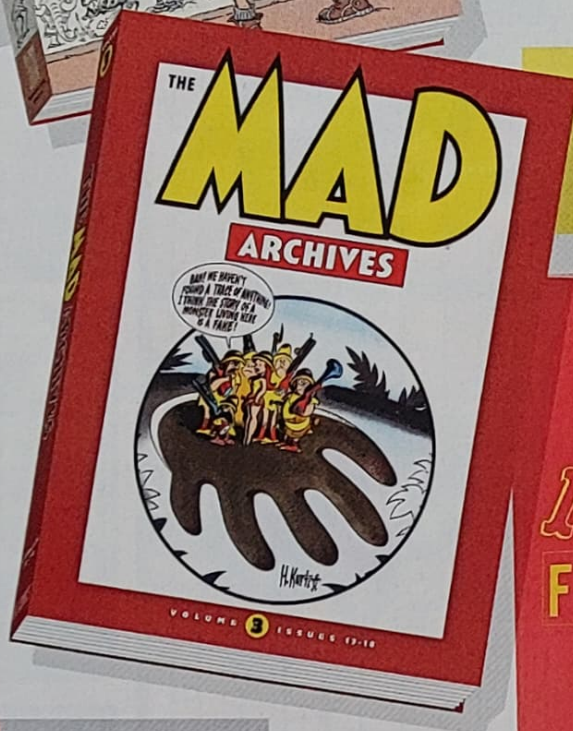
INCLUDES OUR CLASSIC SPOOFS OF:

The Exorcist
Rosemary's Baby
Halloween
Dexter
The Blair Witch Project
Buffy The Vampire Slayer



INCLUDES NEW, ORIGINAL, NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN SERGIO ART!

Plus an 18" X 24" Pull-Out Poster Featuring 500 of Sergio's Favorite Marginals!



INCLUDES EVERY ANTONIO PROHIAS SPY VS. SPY ADVENTURE!

All Reproduced in Their Full, Original Size for the First Time Ever!

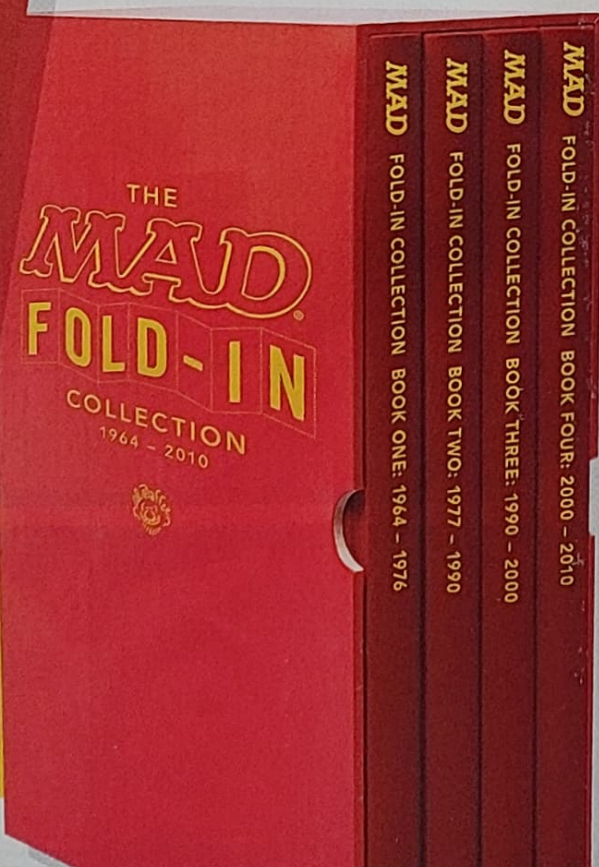
A FOUR-VOLUME SET!

OVER 400 AL JAFFEE CLASSICS!

Includes a Brand-New Fold-In Created by Al Jaffee Especially for This Collection!

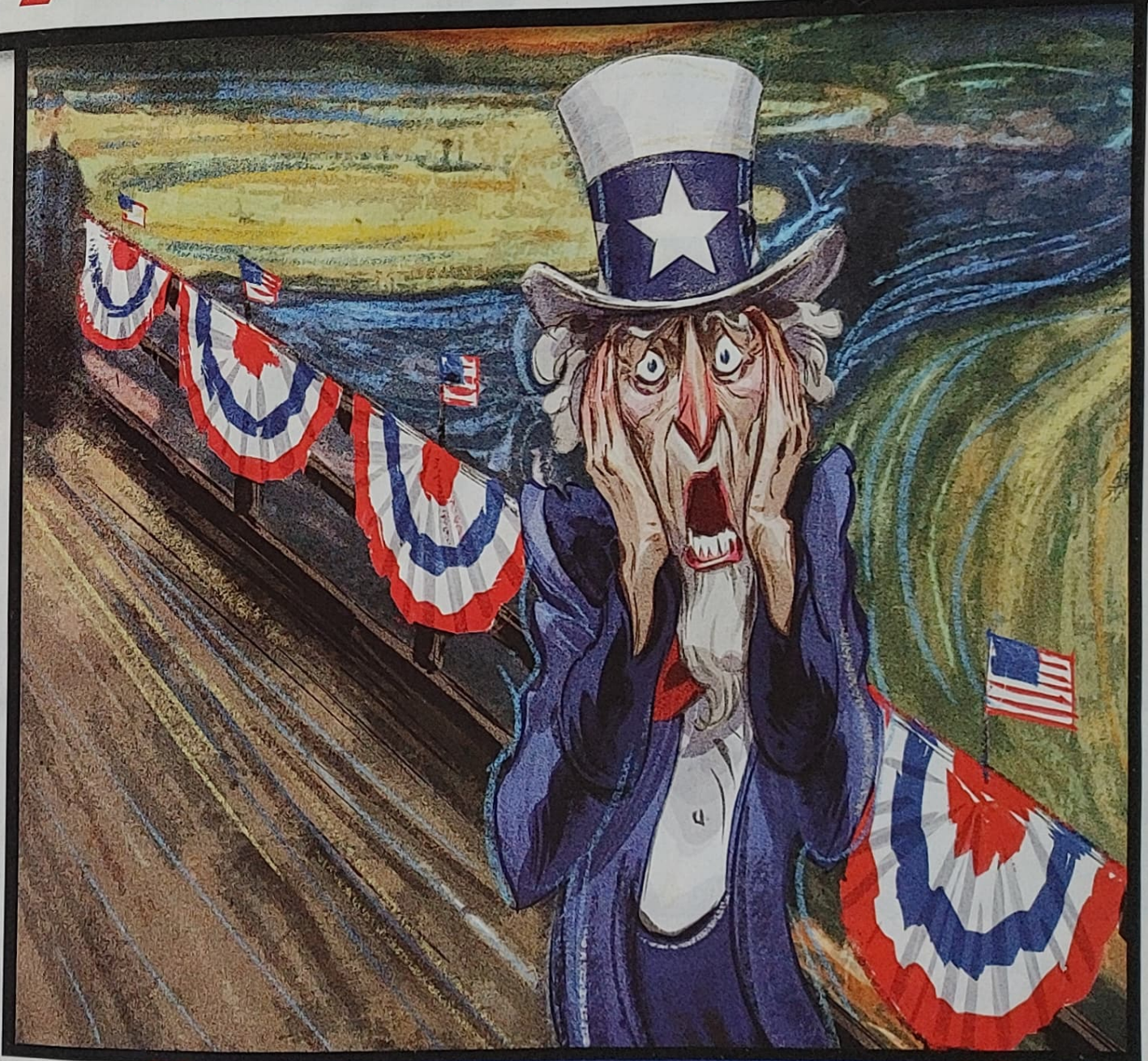
INCLUDES MORE COMIC SATIRES FROM MAD'S EARLY YEARS! WITH CLASSIC ART BY:

- Wally Wood
- Will Elder
- Jack Davis
- Russ Heath



ON SALE NOW! Tomorrow, too.

THE 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT AMERICA



WRITERS: CHARLIE KADAU, JEFF KRUSE AND SCOTT MAIKO
ARTISTS: TOM BUNK, PAUL COKER, HERMANN MEJIA, AND WARD SUTTON

THE 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT AMERICA

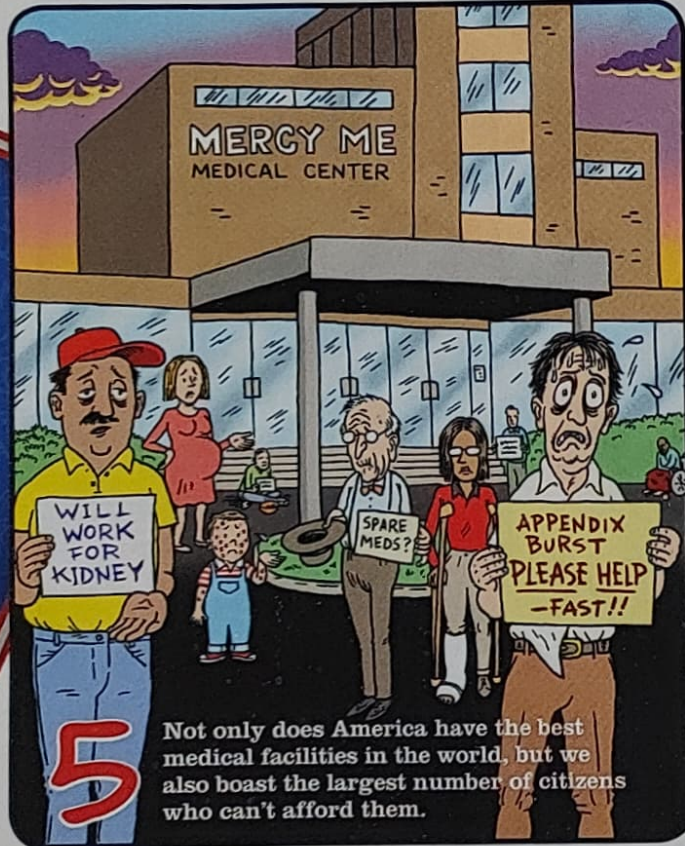
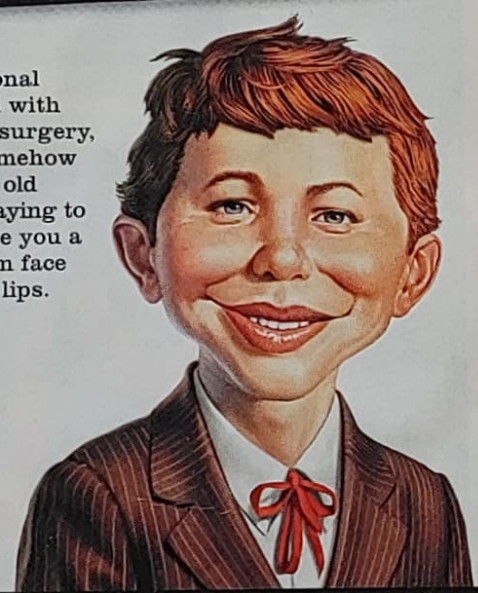
1 The growing number of Americans who now believe July 4th was the day our founding fathers gathered in Philadelphia to see who could eat as many hot dogs as possible.



2 The fact that no one has yet hired a helicopter to drop a steaming load of pig manure on the next Westboro Baptist Church military funeral protest.

3 Three words: The lack of math skills in our nation's schools.

4 Our national obsession with cosmetic surgery, which somehow equates "growing old gracefully" with paying to have someone give you a shiny, bloated ham face with humongous lips.



5 Not only does America have the best medical facilities in the world, but we also boast the largest number of citizens who can't afford them.

6 Prohibition. What the hell was America thinking? Also, slavery.

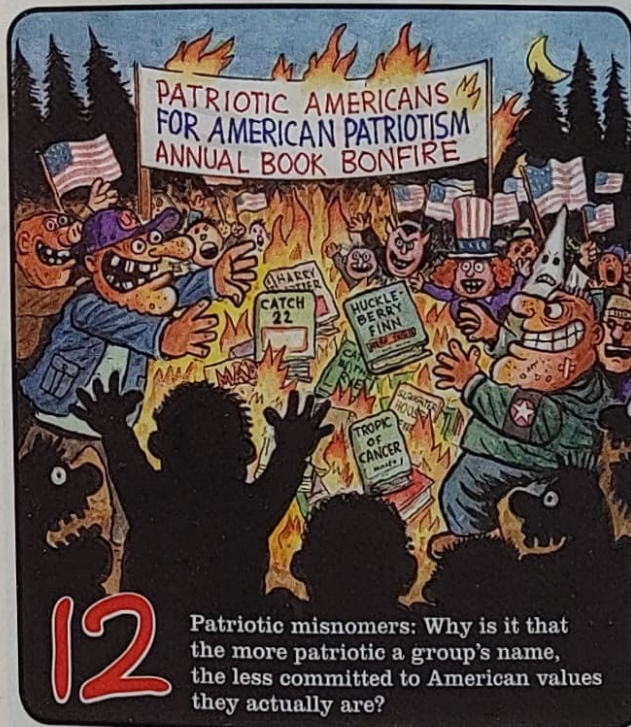


7 That we can find Saddam Hussein and Osama Bin Laden, but somehow, within the borders of our own country, Bigfoot still eludes justice.

8 Toothless, foam-hatted, Bud-guzzling, mullet-wearing, deer-shooting, cousin-rubbing, pickup-driving, trailer-living red state hicks who caricature all blue-staters as sushi-nibbling elites — without ever bothering to consider the more nuanced reality.



11 **Hard-to-spell capital cities like Yeghegnadzor...wait, sorry, that's one of the 50 worst things about Armenia.**



12 **Patriotic misnomers: Why is it that the more patriotic a group's name, the less committed to American values they actually are?**

13 **Twice as many Dakotas as a modern industrial society really needs.**



9 **Sushi-nibbling, wine-sipping, Prius-driving, scarf-wearing, New York Times-brainwashed, Whole Foods-shopping, tax-loving blue state elites who caricature all red-staters as toothless hicks — without ever bothering to consider the more nuanced reality.**

10 **Electric companies that encourage you to protect the environment and "go green" by signing up for "paperless billing," while they continue operating old, outdated carbon-belching, coal-burning power plants.**



14 **Our ridiculous immigration policy. Hard-working laborers get hassled trying to cross the border from the south, but Justin Bieber can just traipse right in from the north. In what universe is THAT fair?**

THE 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT AMERICA

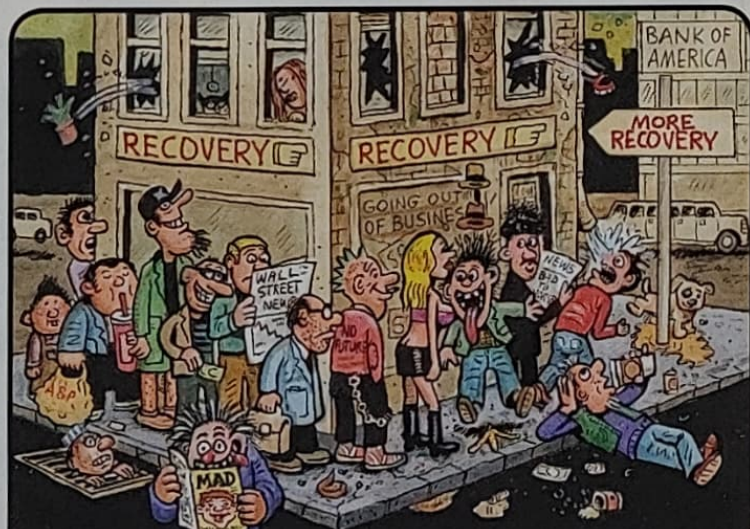
15 Our national image of ourselves as tough, self-sufficient survivors — when in reality, if there's not enough foam in our Grande Mochaccinos, our day is so totally ruined!



16 Our noble, selfless urge to intervene in crises half a world away — so long as it's not in one of those lame, oil-free zones like the Congo or Sudan.

17 The two words guaranteed to win any argument in America today: "That's racist!"

18 Our deteriorating sense of national unity. Specifically the fact that in one part of the country it's called a hero sandwich, in another a hoagie, elsewhere, a grinder, and in others yet, a submarine, poor boy or torpedo. A house divided cannot stand!



21 President Obama's endless promises that genuine economic recovery "is just around the corner" — just like how, if we just kept watching *Lost*, it would all make sense in the end.

19 The heart-wrenching sight of millions of cats and dogs languishing in animal shelters — and still the taboo on eating them in this country continues.

20 The infuriating Chesapeake-Leopard Affair of 1807. Perhaps President Thomas Jefferson said it best when he noted, "Never since the Battle of Lexington have I seen this country in such a state of exasperation." Amen to that!

22

These damn geeks at CNN who let Larry King go just as he was hitting his stride.



24

Rhode Island: it's always the first piece to go missing in the USA jigsaw puzzle.



26

Black Friday: because nothing ushers in the Christmas season like gouging out a stranger's eyes over a \$10 waffle maker.

28

Political leaders who play golf together, when MMA-style cage matches would accomplish a lot more.



craigslist

raleigh-durham > personals > men seeking women

I LOVE TO BE HUMILIATED



Distinguished gentleman loves musical theatre and wearing a dog collar seeks thin, extremely attractive woman under 30 to listen to Sondheim while making me crawl on all fours and bark.

23

Craigslist, where you can post an ad to unload that dangerously faulty gas grill, find someone who's into the same freaky-deaky sex you are, or just lure random, unsuspecting victims to their death — all for free.

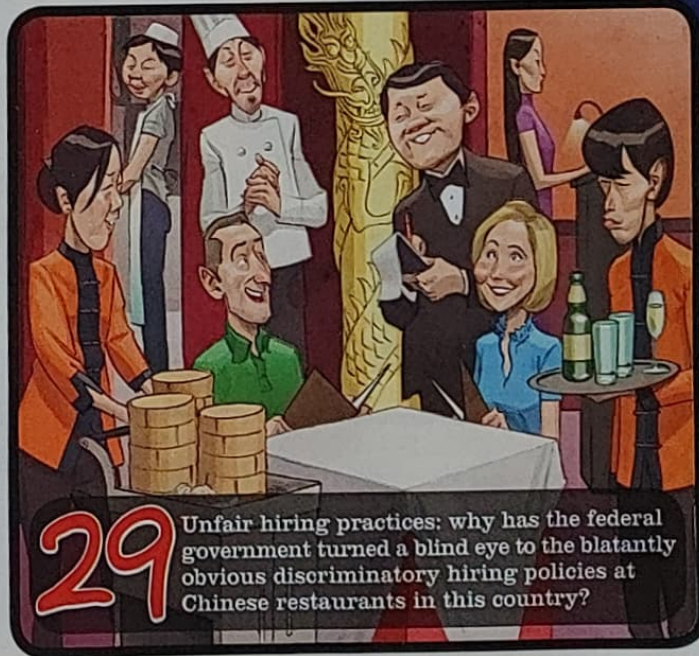


25

That sanctimonious look of self-satisfaction and superiority on the face of the hybrid owner who pulls up next to you at the red light. Thank God he'll be three blocks behind you ten seconds after the light turns green.

27

The New Hampshire state quarter — we just don't like it.



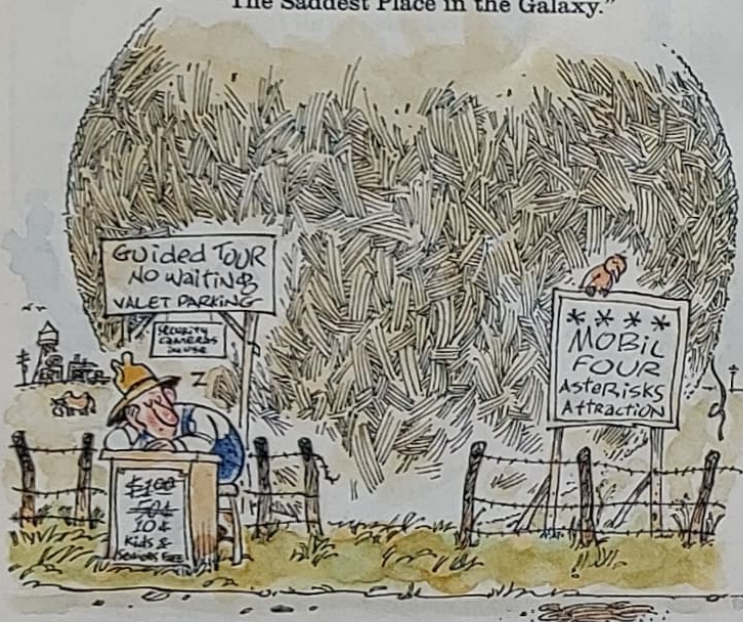
29

Unfair hiring practices: why has the federal government turned a blind eye to the blatantly obvious discriminatory hiring policies at Chinese restaurants in this country?

THE 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT AMERICA

30

Midwestern towns' desperate, tourist-luring claims to have things like "The World's Largest Ball of Twine." It might actually draw more visitors to just go ahead and call yourself "The Saddest Place in the Galaxy."



31

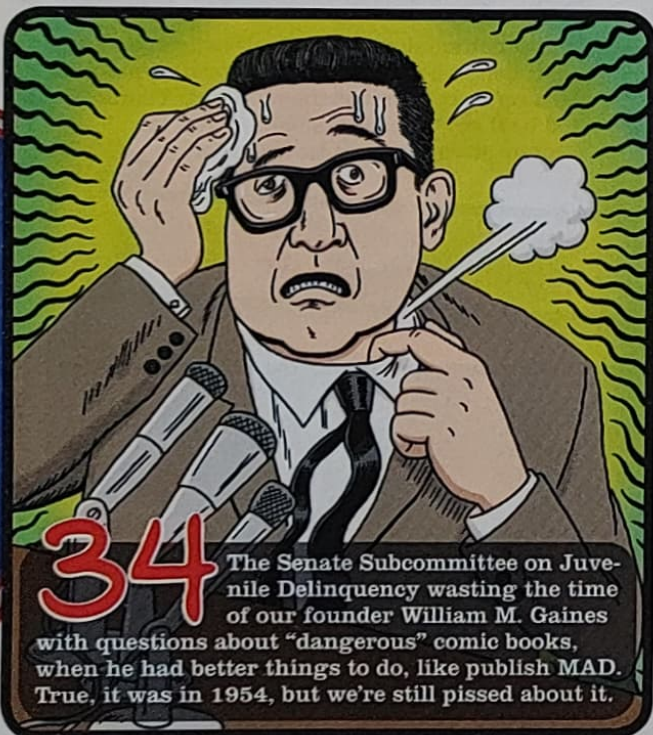
Armchair generals who use the term "we" when advocating sending U.S. troops into war, even though their entire military experience consists of watching reruns of *Major Dad*.

32

The War on Drugs — so comically counterproductive that it makes our real wars seem legitimate.

33

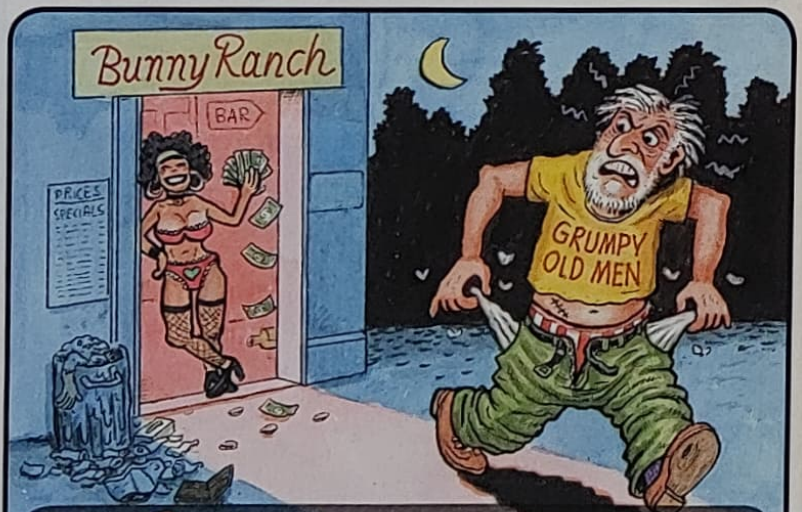
American-flag patterned lingerie and swimsuits. Is this really what brave men have fought and died for all these years?...Wait, maybe it is.



34 The Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency wasting the time of our founder William M. Gaines with questions about "dangerous" comic books, when he had better things to do, like publish *MAD*. True, it was in 1954, but we're still pissed about it.

35

"The Star Spangled Banner" — A tune borrowed from England, with words by a guy in jail, about a battle no one remembers: Hey, let's make that our national anthem!



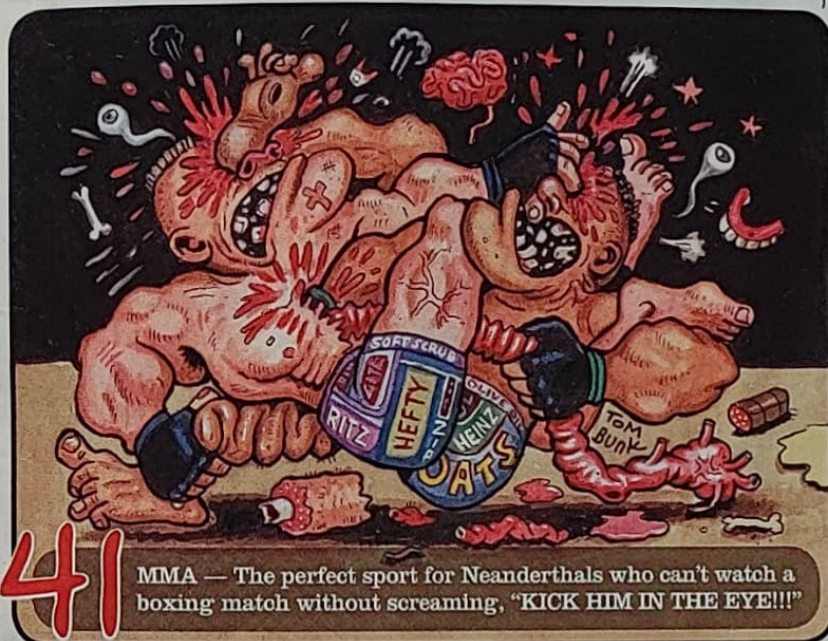
36

The backwards, puritanical morals this country clings to that result in prostitution being legal in only a few small counties in Nevada. And let's not even mention the prices those whores charge!

37 leave it to the government to co-opt technology developed for roller coaster photo booths and turn it into something sinister.

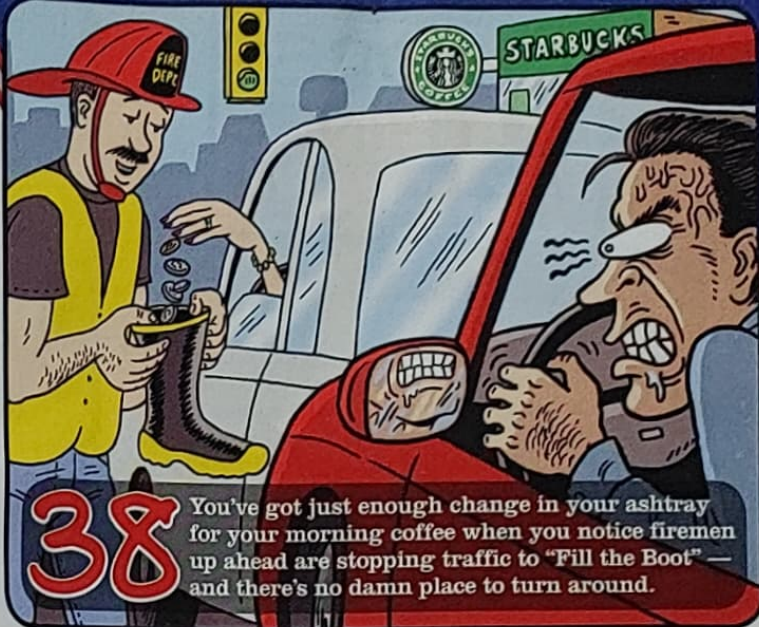


39 Possums: when they were passing out marsupials, clearly America was at the end of the line.

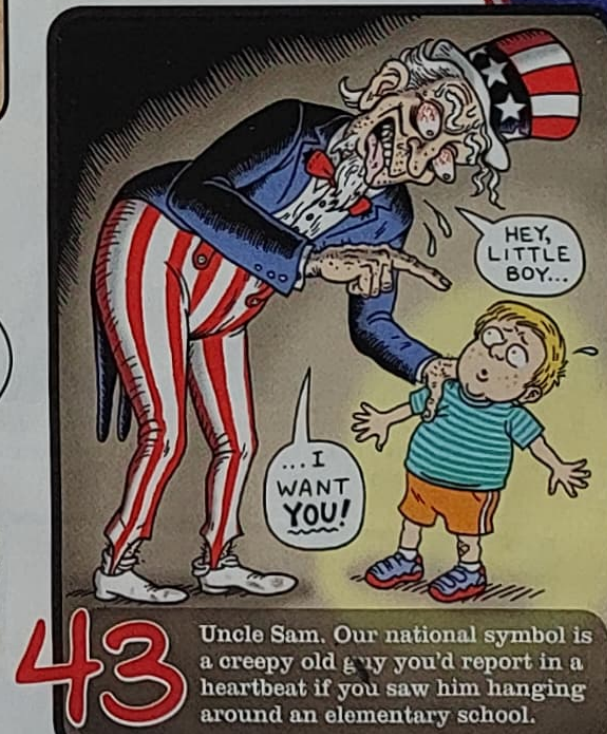


41 MMA — The perfect sport for Neanderthals who can't watch a boxing match without screaming, "KICK HIM IN THE EYE!!!"

42 We don't know what's worse — that states need laws to tell people they shouldn't text while driving, or that lawyers are now actively looking for loopholes to those laws.



40 The Supreme Court's spotty record on protecting our privacy, while steadfastly assuring theirs by not allowing cameras in the deliberation room.



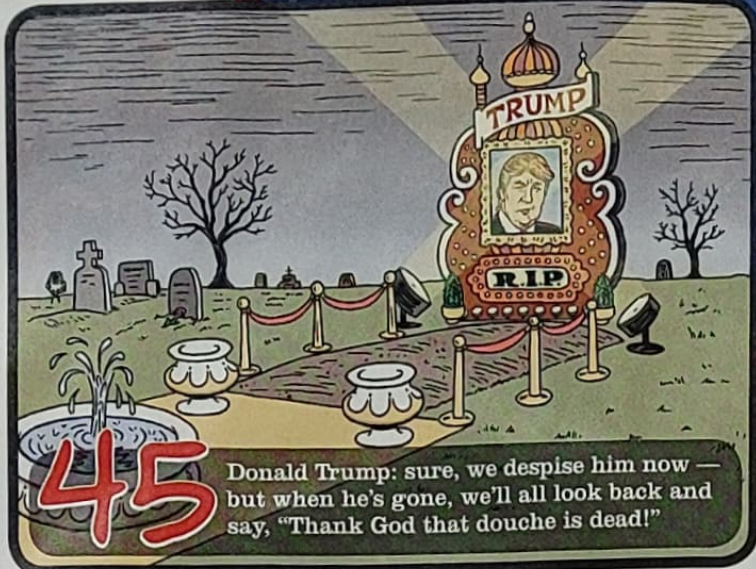
43 Uncle Sam. Our national symbol is a creepy old guy you'd report in a heartbeat if you saw him hanging around an elementary school.

THE 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT AMERICA

44

The fact that child beauty pageants are vilified by people who don't recognize it as an opportunity to make money for college and — godDANGit, Jasminique!

You better stop crying this minute and get your booty back in that tanning booth! You've got preschool in ten minutes and we still have to pick up your flipper and see the choreographer! Yes! Fine! You can have a juicebox! Sorry — as we were saying, scholarships.



45

Donald Trump: sure, we despise him now — but when he's gone, we'll all look back and say, "Thank God that douche is dead!"

46

The Alexander Hamilton Service Area on the New Jersey Turnpike: the second stall from the left in the men's room NEVER has any toilet paper. Why...WHY?!?

47

The depressing fact that it's no longer particularly ironic to see an American flag labeled "Made in China."



48

A two-party system that ensures that everyone can have their voices heard — from the rich to the cartoonishly super-rich.

49

Missouri's Osage River — which is so ridiculously twisty it makes the Muskegon look like the Ouachita!



50

Intercourse, Pennsylvania. Talk about false advertising!

"My technology company is mired
in a public relations nightmare"



You speak. Siri helps. Say hello to your new reputation as an uncaring corporate behemoth.

iPhone 4S

Recently, *Doonesbury* featured a series of strips satirizing the Texas law mandating that women must undergo an invasive medical procedure before terminating a pregnancy. Because of the controversial nature of the strips, many newspapers chose not to run them. As a result, it's a pretty good bet that no other comic strips will be dipping their toe in these waters any time soon. So we'll have to do it for them...

When Comic Strips Besides *Doonesbury* Address Controversial Women's Issues

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



BEETLE BAILEY

CONFERENCE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH



REX MORGAN, M.D.

IS IT TRUE THAT ANTI-ABORTION ARIZONA SENATORS HAVE PASSED A LAW ALLOWING DOCTORS TO DELIBERATELY WITHHOLD INFORMATION ABOUT PRENATAL PROBLEMS, EVEN WHEN IT ENDANGERS THE WOMAN'S HEALTH?



AND OTHER LAWMAKERS ARE PUSHING "GAG RULES" WHICH WOULD CUT ALL FUNDING TO ANY DOCTOR WHO SO MUCH AS MENTIONS ABORTION TO A PATIENT?



DOCTOR MORGAN? DOCTOR? WHAT'S WITH THE CHARADES? ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING?



FIRST WORD, TWO SYLLABLES. FIRST SYLLABLE...SOUNDS LIKE? FIRST WORD, FIRST SYLLABLE, FEET! OKAY, SECOND SYLLABLE, SMALL, FEET...THE? FEET-IT? FEET-US?



JUMBLE

MOPSIE

GAMDO			

CAMLIPRO							
○	□	□	□	○	○	□	□

FIBLILEENX

A: 

SOLUTIONS: IMPOSE, DOGMA, PROCLAIM, INFLEXIBLE
ANSWER: FALLOPIAN

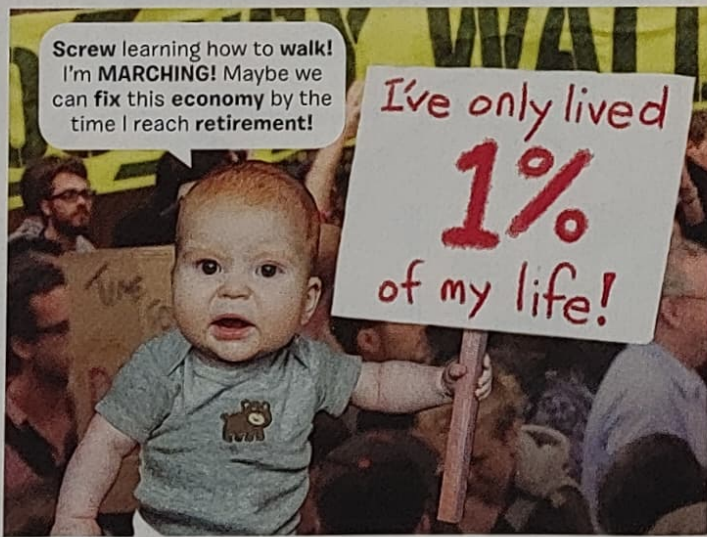
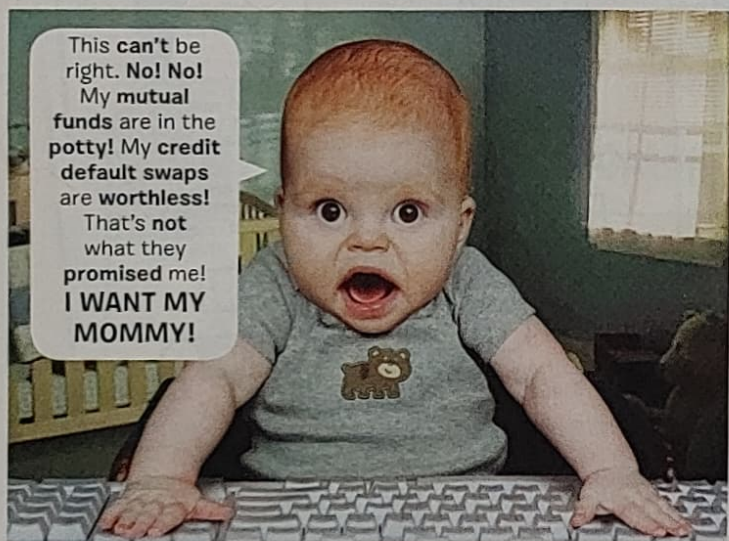
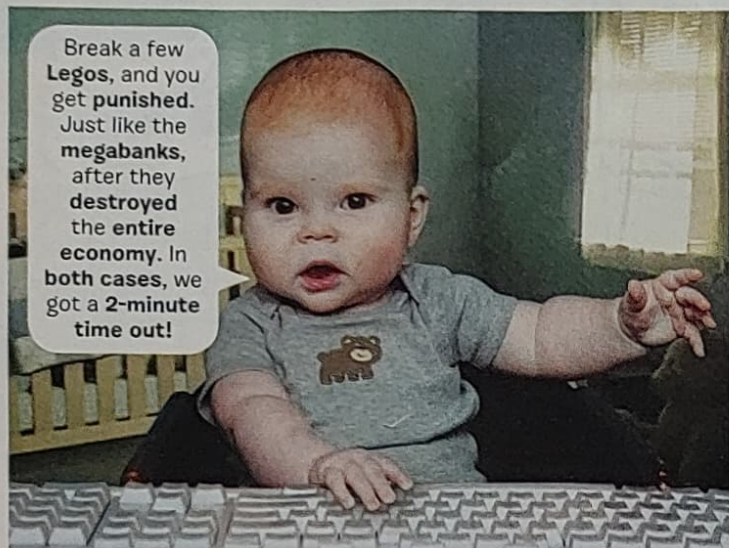


THIS IMMORALITY
MUST BE STOPPED!

Clue: It's a
conservative
politician's job to
put restrictions on
this tube.

A political cartoon titled "SOLUTIONS: PROBABLY PROBABLY PROBABLY" at the top right. The cartoon depicts a winding, dashed path with arrows leading from a "START" sign in the upper left to a "FINISH" sign in the lower right. Along the path, there are several buildings and signs. On the left, there's a "DRUG MART" with a "P" sign, a "HUG YOUR FETUS" sign, a "VIDEO ROOM" sign, and a "HOSPITAL" sign. On the right, there's a "CLINIC" with a "P" sign, a "CLINIC" sign, a "WELL, YOU MADE IT. YOU CAN FINALLY GET YOUR ABORTION." sign, a "FORGET IT. MY WATER JUST BROKE." sign, a "SONOGRAPH ROOM" sign, and a "CHECK IN" sign. In the center, there's a "HOSPITAL" sign with a red arrow pointing left. There are also signs for "PRO LIFE", "BAD MPM", "YOU SUCK", "BURN HELL", "NO", and "BABY KILL BAD". A person is standing at the "FINISH" line, and another person is standing near the "HUG YOUR FETUS" sign. The cartoon is signed "D. B. 1994" at the bottom right.

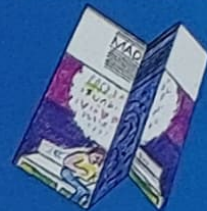
AN E⁺TRADE BABY AD WE'D LIKE TO SEE



WHAT'S THE
ONLY THING
UNAVAILABLE
ON THE
INTERNET?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

As the Internet's profile has grown over the years, there's almost nothing that you can't find there! It can pretty much predict what you'll want — and it seems like the Web now knows you better than you know yourself! Sadly, no matter how hard you try, though, there's still one thing that you just can't get online. To find out what this elusive thing is, fold page in as shown.

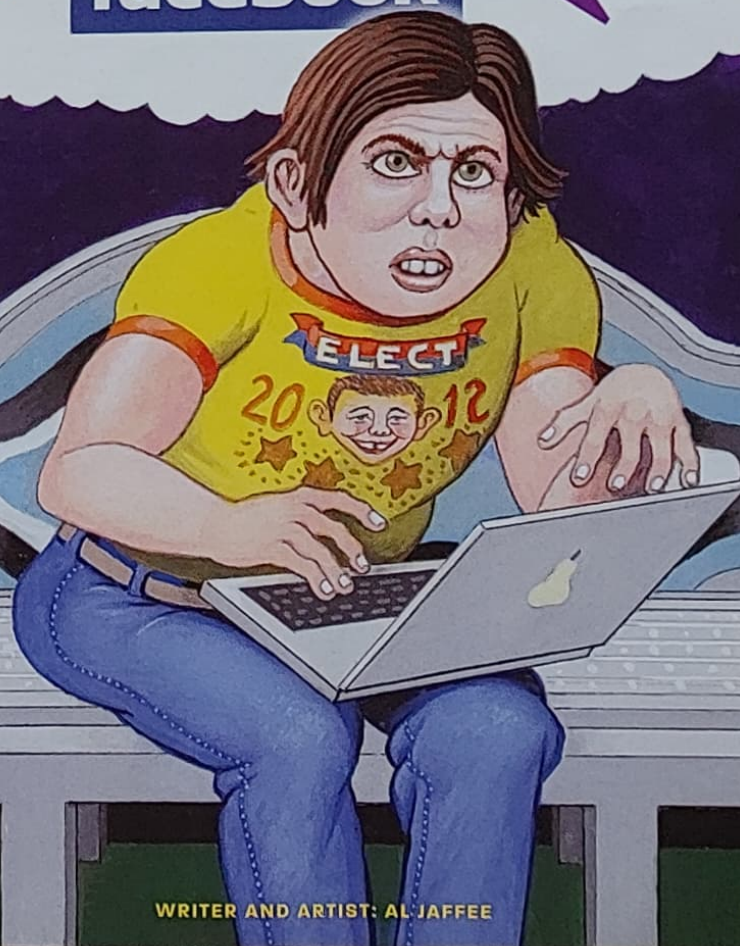


FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

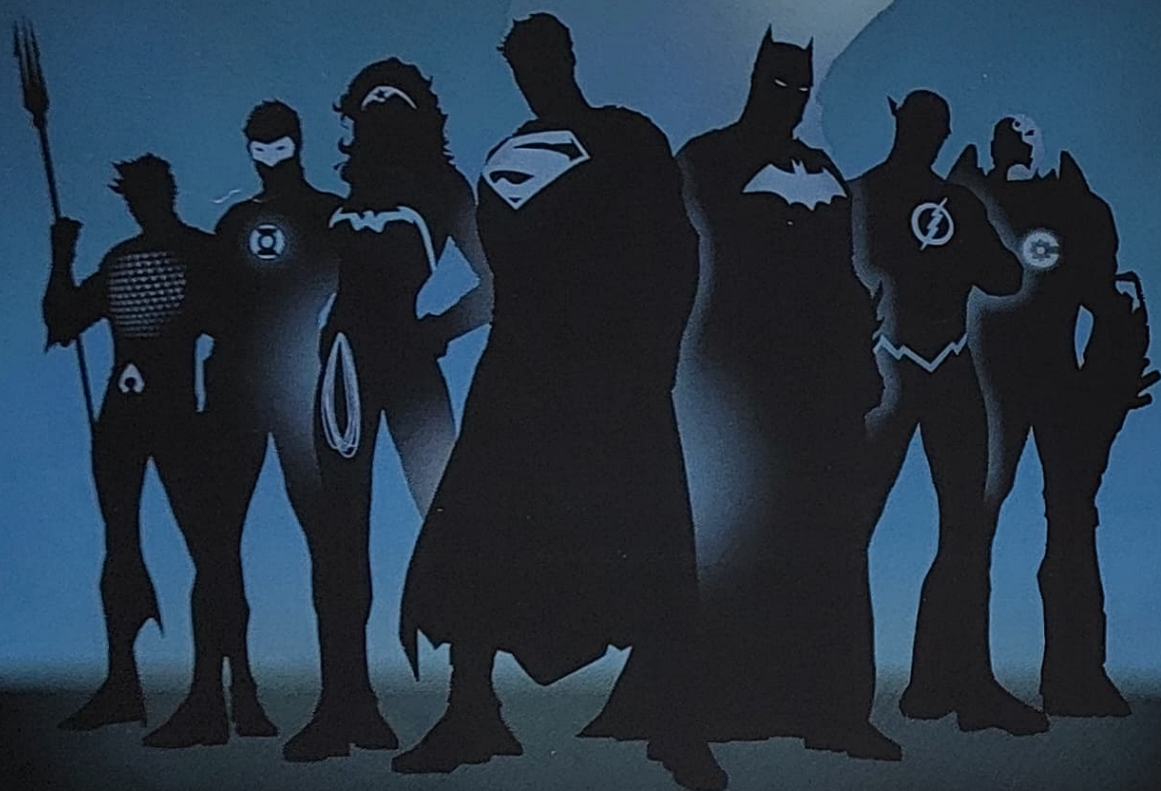
FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

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Rotten Tomatoes
iTunes Google
VEVO twitter
amazon YouTube
craigslist hulu
YAHOO! facebook



WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

WE CAN BE HEROES



In times of crisis, we are stronger together. Join the Justice League and use your power to fight drought and famine in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. Your donation helps our nonprofit partner organizations Save the Children, Mercy Corps and International Rescue Committee provide on-the-ground support where it is needed most. The people of the Horn of Africa need us now.

Help us at www.WeCanBeHeroes.org



DC
ENTERTAINMENT™



Save the Children.



MercyCorps

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